

THE TIMES  
Tomorrow

**Hotlines**  
Why Nato countries are rethinking their approach to the Soviet Union in this period of tension and uncertainty.

**Headlines**  
From building society to circulation-building: a profile of Clive Thornton, the new chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers.



**Lifelines**  
Phillip Whitehead mourns the death of the controversial paediatrician Dr Leonard Arthur.

**Between the lines**  
Michael Ratcliffe reviews the first full-scale English biography of Heinrich von Kleist.

**Pound slips 2 cents on oil fears**  
Worries over oil prices in the wake of the Nigerian coup hit the pound. It fell sharply against all leading currencies and bore the brunt of a fresh surge in the dollar, closing down 2.30 cents at \$1.4285.

**Dearer tea**  
Prices climbed by about 20 per cent at London's tea auction and the cost to the consumer is expected to rise because India has curbed tea exports.

**Kremlin terms**  
Unless the West changes its position, there can be no hope of progress at the forthcoming Stockholm arms control conference, Pravda said in a headline denunciation of Nato.

**'Life' man out**  
Kenneth Barlow, Britain's second longest serving prisoner, left jail on licence after serving 26 years of a life sentence for murdering his second wife.

**Shah dispute**  
The National Graphical Association should be sued for the £314,000 cost of policing Mr Eddie Shah's printing works, Cheshire County Council's Conservative leader said.

**Victim's gift**  
Mrs Janice Weston, the solicitor found murdered last September, was left more than £100,000 by a merchant banker a few years before she died.

**Barre hits back**  
M Raymond Barre, the former French Prime Minister, hit back at a report which is highly critical of his role in the oil-deterring sniffer aircraft scandal.

**Talbot fighting**  
Car production at the Talbot plant at Poissy, near Paris, could not be resumed yesterday after fighting between strikers and other employees left six workers slightly injured.

**England fright**  
A Fijian President's XI came within 18 runs of defeating an England XI in a one-day cricket match in Suva.

**Chappell to quit**  
Greg Chappell, the former Australia captain, announced his retirement from Test cricket.

**Leader page 9**  
Letters: On Unesco, from Mr W. A. C. Mathison; age of consent, from Mr C. Gauntlett; "mole" journalism, from Mr D. Campbell.

**Leading articles:** Lebanon; GLC's historic buildings committee; Chile.

**Features, pages 6-8**  
How the Home Secretary kept his police cell promise; Britain's conciliatory role in the Gulf war; Jack Bruce-Gardyne on the boardroom ex-mandarins.

**Obituary, page 10**  
Sir Morris Sugden; Air Commodore A. E. Clouston.

**Home News, 23**  
Events, 23  
Sports, 23  
Arts, 23  
Bridge, 23  
Business, 23  
Chess, 23  
Court, 23  
Crested, 23  
Diary, 23

# Tunis paralysed as tanks roll in and riots spread

Tunis (AFP, Reuters). — President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia yesterday declared a state of emergency and imposed a night curfew after food riots, in which at least 20 people are believed to have died, spread to the capital.

The Government had earlier ordered army units to take up strategic positions in Tunis. A pall of smoke hung over the city from fires started by rioters.

An Interior Ministry statement said irresponsible elements had started disturbances in some parts of the city. It asked parents to keep children off the streets.

Under the state of emergency, a curfew was imposed from 6pm to 5am and gatherings of more than three persons in public places were prohibited.

Security forces, including police, army and national guard units, were given authority to shoot if necessary to maintain order.

Riot police using batons and tear gas dispersed demonstrators on Habib Bourguiba Avenue, the city's main thoroughfare.

The city paralysed. Buses and trains stopped running and motorists sped for safety through streets filled with tear gas.

In the provinces, the situation was also said to be getting worse. In the port of Gafes,

tanks were said to be patrolling the streets and shots could be heard. In the town of Kef, 110 miles west of Tunis, near the Algerian border, rioters were reported to have set fire to the law courts and supermarkets.

In Sfax, Tunisia's second city, 155 miles south of the capital, violent clashes were reported to be continuing. Villages outside the main towns were also said to be the scene of disturbances.

The number of reported casualties increased. In south-western Gafes Province, sources said 19 people had been killed and many more injured. In

Kasserine, north of Gafes, and Gafes, seven more deaths were reported.

The Government yesterday said four people had been killed and an unspecified number injured in disturbances in four towns after a 110 per cent increase in the price of bread, which was announced on Sunday.

Yesterday morning, students chanted slogans against the increase in front of President Bourguiba's palace in Carthage, a suburb of Tunis. At the same time, the President flew to his home town of Monastir to

preside over celebrations marking the fiftieth anniversary of his founding of the Socialist Destourian Party. The party has held power in Tunisia since independence in 1956.

The main opposition, the Socialist Democrats' Movement, deplored the violence but denounced the "brutal" reaction, saying many had fallen to the bullets of government forces.

A junior minister said measures to help poor Tunisians, hardest hit by the price rises for cereal products, would soon be implemented. The Government had begun talks with the powerful General Union of Tunisian Workers on how to help workers.

The press yesterday published no more than the official communiqué on the riots, but the Government-sponsored *La Presse* and *L'Action*, justified the decision to abolish the food subsidies, which were creating a chronic deficit.

● PARIS: Tunisia's Ambassador to France, Mr Hedi Mabrouk, yesterday denied that food price increases were the only cause of demonstrations and said uncontrolled elements had taken advantage of the situation.

● LONDON: British travel companies last night said they had no fears for their clients (a staff reporter writes). A spokesman for the Tunisian Travel Bureau, which has between 50 and 80 British holidaymakers in Tunisia, said: "We are quite happy with the situation at the moment. We are in constant touch with our hostellers."

Analysis, page 4

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Lieut Goodman, the freed US airman and behind the Rev Jesse Jackson

## Syria releases US airman but Reagan stands firm

By Our Foreign Staff

Despite Syria's release of United States Navy Lieutenant Robert Goodman, the White House said yesterday that American aircraft would continue reconnaissance flights over Syrian-held positions in Lebanon to protect United States Marines near Beirut.

As the airman was released, the Defence Department in Washington disclosed that United States jets yesterday flew over Syrian-held positions in Lebanon to protect United States Marines near Beirut.

The White House spokesman Mr Larry Speakes said the reconnaissance flights were a defensive mechanism and would go on until attacks by Syrian-backed forces on the Marines serving with the multinational peacekeeping force had stopped.

President Assad of Syria ordered the release of Lieutenant Goodman earlier yesterday, during a mission to Damascus by the Democratic presidential contender, the Rev Jesse Jackson.

Lieutenant Goodman was captured by the Syrians after being shot down while on a reconnaissance flight on December 4.

Mr Jackson and the airman yesterday left Damascus for Frankfurt with the airman saying "I am not a hero" and Mr Jackson calling on President Reagan to hold a summit meeting with the Syrian President.

The airman's release, Mr Jackson said, was a "victory for everybody". President Assad had made a magnificent gesture because he "wanted to cooperate, to break the cycle of pain".

Continued on back page

## British ban on French milk lifted

British barriers against imported milk were lifted for the first time yesterday when 38,000 pints from Normandy were cleared at Newhaven, West Sussex, as fit for human consumption. The shipment was released by officials of Lewes District Council who received two inquiries from British companies, saying they might import milk from West Germany and Scandinavia.

The French consignment of semi-skimmed long-life milk entered Britain despite opposition from farmers and unions but in time to avert a clash between the British Government and the EEC Commission.

The overtime ban, ordered by the NUM executive to increase the coal board's 5.2 per cent pay offer, is becoming an issue in the election for a new general secretary of the miners' union.

Mr John Walsh, is to visit Staffordshire on Saturday to unveil his plans for a "comprehensive" settlement.

NUM election, page 8

## Labour has lost its identity, says Wilson

By Anthony Pevins Political Correspondent

Lord Wilson of Rievaulx, the former Prime Minister, said yesterday that Mr Neil Kinnock's Labour Party was fighting hard to look like the natural party of opposition.

He said in an ITN interview: "Although many people enjoy themselves in opposition more than they do on the government benches, the Labour Party is no longer what I called it and what it was - the natural party of government."

Clearly referring to Mr Michael Foot's leadership, Lord Wilson said: "With some performances not long ago, it has not even been the natural

party of opposition, and of course there is now a rather strong and intelligent, however regrettable, third party which is an opposition party."

There was, however, a tribute for Mr Kinnock: "We have a new leader now, I think an excellent one. The more I talk to him or see of him, the more I think so."

Yet, in perhaps typical fashion, Lord Wilson pointed out that Mr Kinnock's attack on the Government lacked the fullest impact because he had no ministerial experience of administration.

He also said the voters were still not quite clear what the Labour Party stood for, what alternative was.

## Britain reeling in backlash of America's freeze

By Colin Hughes

Blizzards and gales gusting to gale force have brought a year of disruption to Britain a knock-on effect of the cold-breaking freeze, which spread North America over the last night.

Snow yesterday brought chaos to many parts of Scotland, closing roads and dragging down power supply lines and leaving thousands of people without heat or light. Snow fell far south as Kent and Dorsetfordshire.

The bitter weather would normally have been suffered by Iceland and Norway, but the extraordinary cold over North America for the past two weeks has shifted the pressure weather to sweep across the British Isles.

The Meteorological Office in Bracknell said yesterday: "The record low temperatures in the United States and Canada recently would not normally have affected British weather. But in this case the movement of air in the upper atmosphere between 18,000 ft and 30,000 ft have brought low pressure systems further south."

As the winds and snow spread south, speed limits were imposed on motorways, and drivers battled against appalling conditions. At sea, at least two ships were picked to reach shore.

For the second day, Scotland bore the brunt of the bad weather and emergency services were stretched to their limits. Ten thousand homes on the island of Skye and the district of Lochaber were without power from early morning. Barra and Vatersay, in the Outer Hebrides, were in darkness, and yachts blown out of the water.

Many roads were blocked by snow, but a number of people had lucky escapes.

Forecast, back page

## Subsidy puts Commons catering into profit

By Anthony Pevins, Political Correspondent

The House of Commons Refreshment Department is planning to spend more than £1m on catering and staff facilities over the next three years, Mr Charles Irving, the Conservative chairman of the parliamentary catering committee, said yesterday.

The department last month reported a "net profit" of £230,697 for the year to last March. The accounts failed to disclose the £1,761,441 which the Treasury had paid for the cost of permanent staff, although they did volunteer that the taxpayer picked up the bill for gas, electricity and water.

Mr Irving said yesterday that, instead of the word "profit", he preferred to use the word "surplus". He said: "It is really profit if you are distributing it to yourself, is it?" He expected that it would be four or five years before the department "returned" some money to the Treasury.

Meanwhile, the Commons department has built up reserves estimated at £1m. They include £655,486 held in investment and current accounts at Lloyds Bank, which last year earned net interest after corporation tax of £23,486.

Asked what he would be doing with his reserves, Mr Irving said: "We shall be spending it. We are submitting a bill to the House of Commons Commission a three-year rolling programme which will far exceed the £1m so that we have to our credit."

In London last night, sources disclosed that British troops could be

Continued on back page

## Curfew lifted in Nigeria

Lagos (Reuters, AP). — Nigeria's new military government yesterday lifted the curfew imposed after they took over in last Saturday's coup.

The move came after the swearing-in of a 19-member Supreme Military Council. Nigeria's new ruling body met in session to discuss the formation of a Federal Executive Council as a Cabinet.

Major-General Moshes Buhari, the new leader, disclosed yesterday that a brigadier was killed as he came to the aid of a soldier who was shot.

Saturday. The brigadier was only a casualty in the coup.

President Shagari, whereabouts had been a mystery, flew to Lagos yesterday in a military aircraft and was driven off in handcuffs by the News Agency of Nigeria reported.

Unconfirmed reports said he was wounded because it was on his command the brigadier had been shot.

Lagos radio reported the first trouble since the takeover, the looting and burning of a market.

The semi-official news agency of Nigeria, quoted by Lagos radio, reported that the market in Genin City was razed on Sunday after widespread looting.

The fire chief Mr Humphrey Longe, told the agency that the value of foodstuffs, jewellery, cosmetics and electronic goods lost was "colossal".

Handcuffed Shagari, page 4

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## County considers suing NGA for £314,000 Warrington police bill

By Ronald Faux

The National Graphical Association should be sued for the £314,000 cost of policing the Warrington printing plant of Mr Eddie Shah, the Conservative leader of Cheshire County Council, Mr Kenneth Maynard, said yesterday.

Mr Maynard, who was speaking at a meeting of Cheshire police committee, asked the county solicitor to investigate such an action.

The bill for the operation was calculated to amount to a 1p rate, he said.

Mr Maynard said that although the Home Office was expected to cover half the cost, Cheshire faced government penalties for overspending which would effectively treble the cost of policing the picket line.

"I feel very strongly that the NGA should be made to pay. It seems quite wrong that the ratepayers should have to face this sort of bill because some

people decided to break the law. "We are not sure the dispute is over yet, but when it is settled we shall be talking to the Government and our solicitors to decide whether to take action against the NGA."

"It might just start a new pattern in covering the cost of police work."

The committee was told by the chief constable, Mr George Fenn, that 1,340 officers had been called in.

The provisional breakdown showed that £160,000 had been paid in overtime to Cheshire police and for the reinforcements from Manchester, Merseyside and Lancashire.

The rest was accounted for by catering, transport, and damage to vehicles and uniforms during clashes between protesters and police.

The division of the bill between Home Office and county council has not been decided.

Mr Shah, manager of the Warrington plant, said: "The real damage was done by those 25 police officers who were hurt. I think the human beings are more important than costs."

At the end of the day, the order must be kept in law, Mr Shah said.

Mr Shah said that the group had caused about 3 p.m. of increased security costs, but the company was returning to normal by 10 p.m.

As for future relations with the NGA, Mr Shah said he was still waiting for the result of talks between the union's national council and the county council.

about whether the principle of a non-closed-shop was acceptable.



Flying out: Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, at Heathrow airport yesterday before leaving for Athens on an official visit. With him are his wife, Glenys; his son, Steve; and his daughter, Rachel

## Jenkin champions the ratepayers

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, is presenting his controversial Rates Bill as a defence of downtrodden ratepayers rather than an exercise in public spending restraint.

He said in an interview in the Conservative Party newspaper *Newsline*, published yesterday, that the link between rates and votes was wearing thin in one inner London borough less than 15 per cent of expenditure was paid for by domestic ratepayers, the rest by commercial ratepayers without protest.

The minister added: "In those circumstances of course the council can snap its fingers at the domestic ratepayers, know that they can't be challenged by the commercial ratepayers, and the spiral goes on and on and up it goes."

"We are calling the thing the Rates Bill, and this must be seen to be primarily a matter of protecting the ratepayers."

"We have perhaps tended to dwell too much on squeezing down local authorities, and that is an important element, but the pressure for all this has come because ratepayers have been

complaining bitterly, particularly in areas of high-spending authorities."

The Bill, which will enable Mr Jenkin to put a ceiling on rates increases for selected overspenders, with a more general capping power kept in reserve, is scheduled for its second reading in the Commons on January 17.

A significant number of Conservative rebels are disturbed by the general powers, which is seen by a number of Conservative council leaders as a threat to their local independence.

Mr Jenkin said in yesterday's interview: "I recognize that it would be very offensive to a large number of authorities, but I hope we would never have to use it. It would certainly be a major centralization of power."

The minister's explanation of his legislation in the party newspaper is seen as part of a calculated effort to diminish the backbench revolt. It has been so effective, so far, that the whips believe there will be no more than twenty rebels and that the Government will win a three-figure majority on January 17.

## Little hope for peace in shipyards

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Crisis talks continued last night with little hope that an all-out strike by 60,000 shipbuilding workers due to start on Friday could be averted.

Representatives of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions and state-owned British Shipbuilders were involved in long, separate discussions with officials of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) in London after an adjournment from last Friday when the present round of talks began.

The employers yesterday continued to refuse to meet the unions in direct negotiation until the threat of a stoppage is lifted.

Negotiators from both sides indicated before the meetings that the gap was as wide as ever and that there was little optimism about the outcome.

The management wants to introduce a radical "survival plan" and has offered a £7 productivity bonus in return.

The unions are not disputing the payment, but say that the rescue package of new working methods is attempting to go "too far, too fast".

The company yesterday started to explain the detail of its plan to Mr Dennis Boyd of Acas, after a preliminary presentation last Friday.

Mr Graham Day, chairman of British Shipbuilders, was not present at yesterday's meetings.

Mr Phillip Hares, deputy chief executive of the company, said before the meetings that the gap between the two sides was considerable.

"I am not that hopeful because the amount of flexibility we are getting from the trade union side is pretty minimal", he said.

Mr Jim Murray, secretary of the confederation's shipbuilding negotiating committee, said that he thought there was room for manoeuvre. "We should not have come here if we thought it was not possible to reach some agreement", he said.

## Unions ask TUC for help to fight 'intimidation'

By Our Labour Reporter

Civil Service unions have asked the TUC to help them to fight alleged political intimidation from the Government.

The Council of Civil Service Unions argues that the Government is in breach of the International Labour Organization Convention 151, which protects trade unionists' rights to carry out their normal activities.

A paper prepared by the council and passed to the TUC alleges that top civil servants have been told to deter union activities which tend to undermine support for the Government.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, is being asked to seek an immediate ruling from the organization.

The council's paper requests help because of alleged intimidation of those who help to produce union journals, who call on MPs to resist spending cuts and who take industrial action in support of colleagues in the Civil Service.

## Firemen called to cut handcuffs

Firemen used a hacksaw to cut off a prisoner's handcuffs after officers at Wood Street police station, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, had failed to free him.

A week earlier two prisoners escaped from the station by shaking off their handcuffs

## Railways can win through, chairman says

By Richard Dowden

British Rail is fighting for survival, according to Mr Bob Reid, its chairman. But he says it is more than capable of finding its own solutions.

Writing in the latest issue of *Railways* British Rail's newspaper, Mr Reid says: "In 1983 we gained the confidence of government. In 1984 we have to win the confidence of more customers."

He says that the main issue to be tackled is the reduction of government support for the railways by £70m over the next five years, over and above the savings already planned. But the savings "do not call for a contracting railway", he said.

In spite of claims that British Rail was about to announce cuts on a bigger scale than Dr Beeching's it appears that only Southern Region is to be severely affected. Elsewhere BR and the transport users' consultative committees say that the cuts will be small.

Mr George Bowen, of the Wales and south-western committee, said he had been by surprise by the controversy over the cuts. "We have had full consultation with the railways for the next year", he said, "and it looks quite good to us. It is marginally better than last year."

Southern Region is facing reductions of 30 per cent in some services, including cuts in peak-hour trains.

## Pressure on EEC to pay £42m rebate

By Our Political Correspondent

The Foreign Office is to press the European Commission and EEC partners for the prompt payment of a £42m rebate due under a 1982 budgetary agreement.

It was disclosed by the Treasury last month that total gross payments of United Kingdom budget rebates for 1982, including £17m worth of grants agreed on December 29, amounted to £299m.

But the outstanding £42m, due for payment by the end of 1983, has been a matter of some dispute since last July's budget conference.

The Cabinet discussed contingency action on the money at its pre-Christmas meeting and the failure to pay will be discussed again at the next Cabinet meeting next week.

When the Prime Minister was asked last month about the possibility of a such larger default by the Community, the payment of the 1983 rebate, he said: "We are not at all sure that we would have to take steps to safeguard our position."

As disclosed in *The Times* last year, the Government has already drafted contingency legislation to withhold payment of contributions to the Community, and that legislation could be brought before the House of Commons as a last resort, if the £42m was withheld.

But it was expected last night that withholding over the £42m would be the "sine qua non" to a deal, although the threat might help to convince EEC partners that Mrs Thatcher was indeed intent on winning a deal for Britain in 1984.

Inspector Knibbs said the peace camps at Greenham Common air base were arrested yesterday in an attempt to test the new ban on them imposed at the Little Chef restaurant in Newbury, Berkshire.

Inspector Thomas Knibbs, who led the operation, said his officers were "acting as private citizens" in assisting the management in their common law right to evict the women.

None of the women was charged, but they may be summoned later for alleged common law breach of the peace. Staff at the restaurant referred all inquiries to the head office of Trust House Forte, which owns the Little Chef's chain, where Mr John Robbins denied that there was a blanket ban on Greenham women.

But he said a decision had been taken for commercial reasons to refuse service because of adverse comments by regular customers about "considerable misuse of some of the facilities by the Greenham Common ladies".

Mr Robbins could not say how the Greenham women had misused facilities at the Little Chef, the only 24-hour refreshment place in the area, and declined to say why the local management found the women "unacceptable" yesterday and refused to serve them.

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## Peace women held in restaurant ban

By Pat Healy

Twenty-one women from the peace camps at Greenham Common air base were arrested yesterday in an attempt to test the new ban on them imposed at the Little Chef restaurant in Newbury, Berkshire.

Inspector Thomas Knibbs, who led the operation, said his officers were "acting as private citizens" in assisting the management in their common law right to evict the women.

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Inspector Knibbs said the peace camps at Greenham Common air base were arrested yesterday in an attempt to test the new ban on them imposed at the Little Chef restaurant in Newbury, Berkshire.

Inspector Thomas Knibbs, who led the operation, said his officers were "acting as private citizens" in assisting the management in their common law right to evict the women.

None of the women was charged, but they may be summoned later for alleged common law breach of the peace. Staff at the restaurant referred all inquiries to the head office of Trust House Forte, which owns the Little Chef's chain, where Mr John Robbins denied that there was a blanket ban on Greenham women.

But he said a decision had been taken for commercial reasons to refuse service because of adverse comments by regular customers about "considerable misuse of some of the facilities by the Greenham Common ladies".

Mr Robbins could not say how the Greenham women had misused facilities at the Little Chef, the only 24-hour refreshment place in the area, and declined to say why the local management found the women "unacceptable" yesterday and refused to serve them.

## Laundry must go private

By Nicholas Timmins

Health ministers have told the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly health authority to give a large laundry contract to a private firm in Devon, in spite of the unanimous opposition of the health authority members.

The authority has been told to give the contract to Kneels of Exeter, despite some complaints about the service the firm has provided on an existing contract, and despite the authority's wish to build a new film National Health Service laundry in Cornwall or to increase the output of existing laundries.

The decision was attacked yesterday by Mr Michael Meacher, Labour spokesman on social services, as having nothing to do with the best interests of the health service and everything to do with "privatization at any cost".

Mr George Owens, district administrator for Cornwall, said the health authority had fears about privatizing the service.

If the cost of the contract rose sharply when it was renewed, "we are likely to be somewhat over a barrel", he said.

Of the two other private firms that tendered, one had put in a bid that was too high and the other needed 18 months to build additional plant.

Mr Hamish Palmer, a director of Kneels said there had been some complaints about a contract the company won from Cornwall last year, but these were teething troubles.

More than 140 women peace campaigners including Helen John, a leading member of the peace camp, are due to appear before magistrates at Newbury today after alleged incidents at the base.

A group of Oxford Project for Peace Studies will be launched next week with students in higher education fighting for £1,800 in prize money with essays on the subject of "The Search for Peace".

## Cabinet secrets revealed

## Bomb warning to ministers

By Peter Hennessy and David Walker

The Soviet Union has been in a position to knock out Britain with a nuclear strike since 1953, according to a Whitehall intelligence assessment made available at the Public Record Office in Kew this week.

Secret files declassified under the 30-year rule disclose that the chiefs-of-staff passed on the grim message to ministers on January 29, 1953, with the warning that "no known form of defence can prevent a really determined, suitably equipped enemy from dropping a proportion of his atom bombs on this country".

In October, 1953, the chiefs reported a sharp increase in Soviet strategic missiles to between 150 and 200. If the third world war broke out, they reckoned "the main weight of the Soviet strategic attack will initially be directed against these islands" from bases in the Ukraine and White Russia.

The chiefs believed that a western capability for launching atomic strikes against these bases was the best form of defence, but they could not decide whether the growing nuclear arsenals of East and West made war more or less likely.

In August, 1953, the Russians tested a hydrogen bomb, ending the United States monopoly on thermonuclear weapons some two years sooner than British intelligence had expected. But the death of Stalin in March 1953, and unrest in East Germany in June changed slightly Whitehall's assessment of the likelihood of the Soviet Union starting a world war.

The chiefs informed the Cabinet's Defence Committee on October 1: "Stalin's successors are no in a position to pursue Stalin's policies, which involved heavy pressure on the Soviet people and a high degree of tension in international relations".

At a meeting of the committee, Churchill insisted that tight security should conceal this reevaluation. The minutes record that: "He thought it was true that the possibility of major war had receded slightly.... At the same time he thought it would be unwise to give any wide currency to this appreciation by the Chiefs-of-Staff. In particular he deprecated the suggestion that it should be communicated to the United States authorities - it was unnecessary for us to do anything which might encourage them to reduce the level of their defence expenditure."

In the autumn of 1953, Churchill faced a possible revolt by the chiefs because of his "Radical Review", aimed at imposing a ceiling of £1,650m on defence spending in 1955.

The chiefs talked of exercising their constitutional right to protest against the course of defence policy, and the grounds that the Government's strategy of contingency planning for a six-week third world war was erroneous.

An ambitious plan by "C", Sir John Sinclair, head of M16, to increase the clout of the West by preparing for clandestine operations behind Soviet lines in the opening stage of a third world war - using British servicemen, 500 "foreign" and the crews of transport aircraft - was turned down by the chiefs in 1953 because of the cost.

"C" was told to confine himself to "certain comp-dmain operations in the Middle East, where the dividends to be obtained are high in relation to the resources required [and] any other small-scale operations not requiring additional Service resources".

On a less grave level, the Admiralty spent a great deal of time in 1953 deciding whether sailors of the Royal Navy could wear earrings. After prolonged discussion, the Fourth Sea Lord's recommendation was accepted that each case should be examined and its merits. Tomorrow: The 1953 review of welfare spending.

## Churchill plan to scare Mau Mau

The Imperial General Staff, reported on a fact-finding visit to the troubled areas in Kenya in February, 1953: "The bulk of the Kikuyu were believed to have taken the Mau Mau oath, which committed them to acts of violence against Europeans when so instructed."

This had been achieved entirely by marauding gangs, who were mainly in the Aberdare mountains - but were now spreading further afield - and who forcibly recruited the local Kikuyu to assist them in acts of violence."

Sir John urged a stepping up of activity on the military, police and intelligence fronts to prevent Mau Mau-style terrorism spreading to other parts of East Africa and to "curb" the "European hotbeds" in Kenya.

Ministers became increasingly concerned about Mau Mau after General Sir John (now Lord) Harding, Chief of

## Ulster rivals join forces to demand tougher security

From Our Correspondent, Belfast

The rival leaders of Northern Ireland's unionists - Mr James Molyneux, of the Official Unionist Party, and the Rev Ian Paisley, of the Democratic Unionists - will demand stringent new security measures tomorrow.

They are sinking their often bitter differences for a joint approach to Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, over the resurgence of terrorism recently - particularly the Darkley church massacre in co Armagh on November 27 and the murder of the Official Unionists' law and order spokesman, Mr Edgar Graham, on December 7.

Mr Frank Millar, the Official Unionists' general secretary, said yesterday: "The talks with Mr Prior will be confidential and concerned exclusively with security. They are not revealing any details of the proposals they are jointly putting to him."

It can be safely predicted, however, that the party leaders will request a heavier and more overt presence of the security forces along the border with the Irish Republic.

They are also expected to demand the lifting of what they say are cash limits on the amount of overtime worked by the Royal Ulster Constabulary, the ending of terrorist suspects' rights to silence and more diligent enforcement of the generally ignored existing laws against incitement, under which they believe such Provisional Sinn Fein leaders as Mr Gerry

Adams, MP for Belfast West, could be convicted.

Both men have criticized the RUC Chief Constable, Sir John Hermon. Mr Paisley has called loudly and often for his resignation.

They are expected to emphasize jointly that any new security offensive should be headed by a new operational commander rather than Sir John, if it is to gain the parties' confidence and support.

Meanwhile, the RUC and police in the republic searched on both sides of the border yesterday for a red Peugeot 504 which they believed was used by the murderers of the first terrorist victim of 1984 in Northern Ireland, a part-time private in the Ulster Defence Regiment.

Mr Robert Gregory-Elliott, aged 25, a self-employed electrician, was shot dead within earshot of his widowed mother with whom he lived in an isolated country house near Castlederg in Co Tyrone.

Officers from Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad spent much of yesterday talking to commuters at Edgware Underground station, north London, where the car used in the Harrods bombing may have been left shortly before the blast (Stewart Tindler writes).

The exercise yesterday is expected to be the first of several throughout London to test sightings of the blue Austin 1300 GT reported by the public since the bombing last month.

## Party to question MP on private life

By Ronald Faux

Mr Gerald Bermingham, MP for St Helens South is to appear before the general management committee of the constituency Labour Party tomorrow to discuss his private life.

It has been reported that Mr Bermingham, who has been married twice, has been having affairs with two women.

Mr Jerry Caghey, secretary of the constituency Labour Party, said yesterday: "It is not the sexual escapades that we are concerned with, but the way the stories have brought the party into disrepute and destroyed his own credibility. Those are the important things."

This will give him a chance, once again, to give the party an explanation. I am hoping that he has a good explanation because he has played a good role for the party down in Parliament."

Mr Caghey said that if Mr Bermingham failed to impress the local party, they would expect



## Further rise in cost of tea likely as auction prices increase by 20%

By Michael Prest

The price of a packet of tea, still Britain's favourite drink, is expected to rise again because the Indian Government has severely restricted tea exports.

Prices soared by about 20 per cent at yesterday's weekly tea auction in London. A spokesman for Brooke Bond Oxo, which with 30 per cent of the British market is the nation's biggest supplier, said: "We are looking at the situation daily and clearly another increase cannot be long deferred."

But both tea traders and retailers could not say yet by how much prices in the shops would rise. Brooke Bond raised its prices by 10 per cent last April, and again in December by 8.5 per cent for packet tea and 12.5 per cent for tea bags.

The increases were forced by a continuous rise last year in world tea prices. The average London auction price rose from 135p a kilogramme in April to 252p just before Christmas. Consumption in the Middle East, the Soviet Union and developing countries has been growing and in 1983 world demand exceeded supply.

These increases are just

beginning to work their way on to the supermarket shelves. But the announcement on Christmas Day by the Indian Government that it would ban, probably for four months, the export of crushed tea and cut (CTC) teas has pushed prices up again.

The CTC process releases the strong flavour and colour from the north Indian teas which are the basis of popular blends in Britain. The market leader is Brooke Bond's PG Tips. Of the tea drunk in Britain, 80 per cent is CTC, and of that amount India supplies a quarter.

No official averages for yesterday's auction have yet been calculated, but tea traders said that quality teas could now be fetching around 330p, an increase of 50p over the last auction. Northern Indian teas rose by between 50p and 70p yesterday and one variety of Sri Lankan tea, Ceylon Broken Orange, reached what is believed to be the record price of 360p a kilogramme.

India's decision to stop exporting CTC teas, which constitute most of the producer's overseas sales, is be-

lieved in the tea trade to have been motivated by the unpopularity within India of higher tea prices. Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, stands for reelection this year.

The timing of the ban has also been prompted by the end of the northern Indian tea season, which runs from April to December. In a normal year, India would supply Britain with about eight million kilograms of tea over the next four months. Total British imports are around 180 million kilograms annually.

Britain is particularly vulnerable to changes in the world supply because it is one of the biggest tea markets. The average British citizen, according to the Tea Council, which represents the industry, drinks 3.25 kilograms of tea a year, or four cups a day. Only Ireland, Kuwait and Qatar consume more per capita.

A spokesman for Brooke Bond said that retail tea price increases are running well behind wholesale tea prices. It had warned the trade in December that another rise might be necessary if world tea prices continued to go up.

## Law Society attack on media over Bill

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Coverage by the media of the House of Lords Bill, which seeks to end solicitors' monopoly in conveyancing, has been strongly criticized by Mr Christopher Hewson, president of the Law Society.

In a letter to all solicitors' firms in England, Mr Hewson said the society's attempts to put over its case to the public had been frustrated by "a hostile press".

The letter also said the media had "constantly distorted" the way in which the society handled complaints from the public about solicitors, and singled out the recent case in which Mr Glanville Davies overcharged his client, Mr Leslie Parsons, for more than £100,000.

A Law Society spokesman said last night the letter had been sent immediately after the second reading of the Bill on December 16 because members would want to know the society's views and, because of Christmas, would not require a next edition of their professional journal until the middle of January.

Mr Hewson thanked them for responding to his call to

block what he described as "this thoroughly unsatisfactory Bill". Because of their constructive response, MPs have been "deluged" with letters warning them of the "vital consumer interests which are at stake".

The lobbying of MPs by solicitors had helped to ensure that virtually all speakers on the Bill in the Commons had recognized its unsatisfactory nature, he said.

The Bill, sponsored by Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Great Grimsby, and supported by the Consumer Association, unexpectedly received its second reading after the Government had asked for its rejection on the ground that it would put forward its own legislation in the future. The Law Society had been criticized by some MPs for trying to persuade MPs to vote against the measure.

The Bill now goes to the committee stage, where it is likely to be overtaken by the Government's own, less radical, proposals for the reform of the solicitors' monopoly of conveyancing.

Price predictions, page 10

## LBC to cut news broadcasts

By David Hewson

Britain's first commercial local radio station is to cut its news output in an attempt to remain financially viable.

Talk shows and feature items will be increased on London-based LBC, but plans to introduce pop music in an attempt to maintain ratings have been dropped.

LBC started in 1973 as a talk and current affairs station; but its fortunes declined last year and management found that one of the most frequent criticisms of the station was its repetitive nature of news bulletins.

Mr Peter Thornton LBC's editorial director, said there would be changes in the station's work schedules from next week, but no redundancies among its 170 staff, he said.

Members of the National Union of Journalists at LBC had feared the company wanted to move the station downmarket into pop music to increase ratings.

But Mr Thornton said LBC had looked at introducing pop music and decided against it, although the Independent Broadcasting Authority, which controls the franchise, did not object.

"LBC is an all-speech radio station and we think we can make it more interesting and more appealing in the future," he said.

Brian Hayes, the morning chat show presenter, will have an extra hour, and a new afternoon current affairs features programme will be introduced, both at the expense of news bulletins.

LBC was not losing money as a company, he said. "But the situation isn't a licence to print money. News gathering is a very expensive operation and LBC hasn't made huge profits for its shareholders."

## Sheep hunt

Ministry of Agriculture officials were trying yesterday to trace thousands of sheep sold at auction in the past six months in 200 square miles on the Cumbria-Durham border where there is a serious outbreak of sheep scab.

The declared intention of hunt saboteurs to turn their attentions to fish has led to the resurfacing of an old and controversial question: Do fish feel pain?

The question has long divided scientists, but the answer is of great importance to nearly four million anglers.

Yes, probably, Professor John Kelly, of the pharmacology department of St George's Hospital medical school, London, said yesterday.

No, definitely not, responded Dr. Ross Lingfield, regional biologist of the Anglian Water Board.

Well, possibly, Professor Geoffrey Burnstock, director of the neurosciences centre at University College, London, said.

Professor Kelly gave evidence to the three-year inquiry into shooting and angling chaired by Lord Medway, which was sponsored by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The RSPCA interpreted its 1980 report as indicating that fish feel pain.

Professor Kelly said: "Research has shown that fish react to pain-relieving drugs like morphine and valium in the same way as mammals."

"I would argue that it is foolhardy to argue that they do not suffer. The problem is that it is impossible to prove it categorically one way or the other."

In pharmacological tests for pain-transmitting elements in nervous systems, Professor



Deck games: The Mississippi dancers rehearsing yesterday at Earl's Court town

## Disease brings meat ban

By Hugh Clayton

Meat exports to Britain have been banned from farms and factories near an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Holland.

Exports to Britain of Dutch ham and bacon have risen in recent years, and none will now be allowed from within 30 kilometres of the small farm at Nagels in the north-east Friesland district from which the disease has spread.

Foot-and-mouth disease is one of the fastest spreading and most costly virus infections of farm animals. The last British outbreak was on the Isle of Wight almost three years ago, when hundreds of animals were slaughtered and burnt on government orders in a successful effort to keep the disease off the mainland.

That virus was thought to have been carried or wafted about 200 miles from outbreaks in northern France. That is about the distance between the Dutch cases and the coast of East Anglia.

The Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food in London said yesterday that it was satisfied with the strict precautions taken by the Dutch authorities. The ministry will be represented at a meeting in Brussels today of government vets from all EEC states who will discuss the Dutch cases.

No source has yet been traced, although the outbreak is close to an experimental cattle farm. The virus once infected cattle in Britain after escaping from a laboratory.

Holland fights the disease with mass vaccination of farm animals, while Britain relies on a policy of quarantine and slaughter.

The scale of the practice could be large, Mr Simpson

## Shops 'encouraging children to smoke'

By Kenneth Gosling

Primary school children are being encouraged to start smoking by tobaccoists who sell them loose cigarettes at 10p each, it was claimed yesterday at the launching of a new drive against smoking.

Mr David Simpson, director of the pressure group Ash (Action on Smoking and Health) called on teachers and parents to stamp out the practice. Shopkeepers, he said, were selling the cigarettes for twice the normal price and helping children who could not afford packets of cigarettes to become regular smokers.

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## Pained debate on fish feeling

By Thomson Practice, Science Correspondent

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## Legal remain

By Clifford Longley

A legal challenge is made to the Church of England's new procedures for remarriage of divorced couples.

Armed with a letter from Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, a body of the Church of England's Synod of the Legal Advisory Mission that the procedure agreed next month, which would allow a divorced couple to remarry in church, was unlawful.

Lord Denning, who was Chancellor of the London Southwark diocese, has in a letter to a Marriage Solidarity group, a ruling from the Synod's Legal Advisory Mission that the procedure agreed next month, which would allow a divorced couple to remarry in church, was unlawful.

Mr Robert Edwards, a leading member of the group, said yesterday that lawyers had given a strong opinion. The group did envisage a challenge to General Synod in the House of Bishops but said anyone could make such a challenge.

Lord Denning's view means the General Synod would have to begin complicated procedures to change Canon B 30, which says: "Marriage is in

## Action on

By Our Technical

British Telecom is to modify 7,000 of its electronic payphones which have been particularly vulnerable to an undisclosed type of theft.

More than 5,500 of the electronic "press-button" payphones which are in service will be modified by the end of the spring. The corporation's lost revenue and the cost of the

## Neglect of horses denied

By Clifford Longley

A hunt chairman accused of causing unnecessary suffering to six thoroughbred horses told a court yesterday that the matter had been blown up out of all proportion.

Roland Ford, aged 47, of Sampford Brett, Somerset, chairman of the Quantock Stag Hounds, was jointly accused with Nelson Burden, a farmer aged 64, and Tom Stark, a farm worker aged 52, both of Crewkerne, Somerset, in an action at Minehead brought by the RSPCA.

At a previous hearing, when all three pleaded not guilty, magistrates were told that the men were appointed by Mrs Barbara Henson, of Crewkerne, to look after her horses while she visited New Zealand for six months. In her absence, a 17-year-old stallion had to be put down and, when she returned, the other looked like skeletons, it was alleged.

Mr Ford, who was appointed land agent while Mrs Henson was away, told the court that the stallion had been an embarrassment the previous winter because of its condition and should not have been kept alive. He had it put down to avoid further suffering.

"When Mrs Henson returned she said the horses did not look like they had when she left, but I pointed out that it was the end of the winter and that they did not look too bad. She had no complaints about the farm. She gave me a gold watch," he said.

Mr Burden, who took over the farm part time, said the stallion's condition deteriorated because of its bad teeth and old age.

The hearing continues tomorrow.

## Micro sales may reach 2 million

Sales of home computers in Britain this year are expected to approach two million, sustaining the growth pattern seen in the past three years. The sales of the computers, all below £500, totalled about 1.4 million last year, greater than the one million sold in the previous three years.

British manufacturers are expected to have prominent place in the market, particularly Sinclair which now commands about a 55 per cent share.

Last year, Sinclair realized its own targets by selling 600,000 Spectrums and 200,000 ZX 81 machines. In second place was Commodore with sales of 200,000 of the VIC 20 and 230,000 of its model 64. The BBC microcomputer model B sales topped 150,000.

The boom in microcomputer sales shows little sign of abating, and the British manufacturers could obtain a larger slice of the market depriving the US suppliers. Over Christmas, demand outstripped the supply of Sinclair, Spectrums and the Acorn computer, the Electron, which was launched last year.

The BBC has had remarkable success with its machine which has sold more than 200,000 so far.

## Firemen called to cut handcuffs

Firemen used a hacksaw to cut off a prisoner's handcuffs after officers at Wood Street Police station, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, had failed to free him.

A week earlier two prisoners escaped from the station by shaking off their handcuffs after a court appearance. They were recaptured after a chase. The police said: "The matter is being investigated."

## Comedian forced to leave show

Jim Davidson, the comedian, has been forced to leave his Christmas show because of a foot injury.

Mr Davidson, who missed 12 performances at the Apollo Theatre, Coventry, after he dropped a paving stone on his left foot on Christmas Day, returned on Monday against medical advice. But he was in so much pain that future shows were cancelled. Ticket refunds are planned.

## Bridge penalty

Michael and Sheila Cox who own a bridge at Swinford, Oxfordshire, have reintroduced a penny toll on motor cyclists to make them slow down, after an accident in which Mrs Cox was struck by a motor cycle.

# R R O D S A L E

Actions in China, Glass and Housewares

Two Floors to buy world-famous perfect, at fantastic prices for perfect goods.

China Rooms to buy world-famous perfect, at fantastic prices for perfect goods.

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Mr Barlow and his wife on their wedding day, 11 months later she was dead

## Wife-killer is freed after 26 years

By a Staff Reporter

Kenneth Barlow, Britain's second-longest serving prisoner, stepped into a freezing dawn from Leyhill open prison near Bristol, yesterday after 26 years in jail.

Barlow, who has been released on licence, saw the outside world from the back of a speeding car containing representatives of a features agency which is understood to have bought his story.

A former nurse, Barlow, now aged 65, was jailed for life at Leeds Assizes in 1957 for what was described as a "perfect murder". He had killed his second wife, Elizabeth, aged 30 and pregnant at the time, by injecting her with insulin.

The couple had been married for 11 months when Mrs Barlow, a former nurse, drowned in her bath after falling into a coma. Only after her body had been exhumed for a second post-mortem examination were needle marks found, and Barlow was tried for murder.

At the trial, a biochemist said that more than 1,000 mice had been injected with extracts taken from Mrs Barlow's body. The animals that responded to the extracts had experienced convulsions and collapse.

Less than a year earlier an anonymous telephone call led to a police inquiry into the death of Barlow's first wife. An inquest ruled that her death was due to natural causes.

Barlow had been due to be released on licence last November but the Home Office announced that he would remain at Leyhill until an inquiry had been conducted into certain, unspecified, allegations.

Barlow has always protested his innocence. He said he had injected his wife with another drug in an attempt to end her pregnancy.

Barlow is expected to find lodgings in the Kent seaside town of Margate; he will have to report regularly to the probation services. He will be meeting Mrs Sybil Stancliffe, of Batley, West Yorkshire, who, with her late husband, campaigned for his release over a 20 year period. In March Mr Barlow spent some days parole leave with her.

Mrs Stancliffe said yesterday that she was planning a party next month for him. "My husband had talked with a lot of killers and he always said Ken was not one."

She said that Barlow was bitter about being wrongly accused.

Britain's longest-serving prisoner is John Strain, who has been behind bars for 31 years.

He was sent to Broadmoor for killing two young girls, but escaped after seven months and strangled another child. He is now at Long Lartin prison, Hereford and Worcester.

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## US pilot freed in Damascus

## Jackson triumph may prove short-lived

From Nicholas Assaf, Washington

The Rev Jesse Jackson has long been recognized as a skillful self-promoter. His success in securing the release of Lieutenant Robert Goodman from detention in Syria has now transformed him into the most visible and most talked-about of the eight Democratic presidential candidates - outstanding, at least for the moment, even the Democratic front-runner, Mr Walter Mondale.

However, two questions immediately arise from Mr Jackson's political coup. First, what impact will this have on US-Syrian relations and on American policy in Lebanon? And second, to what extent will it promote Mr Jackson's candidacy for the Democratic nomination?

Although Mr Jackson succeeded where the Reagan Administration had so far failed, a fact which is undoubtedly causing the White House some temporary embarrassment, in the longer term it could ease the way for an

agreement which would provide President Reagan with a face-saving way of withdrawing US Marines from Beirut. Mr Jackson, noting that the Reagan Administration had not tried to block his visit even though they disapproved of it, said he hoped the airman's release would be "a giant step towards new options in the Middle East".

By agreeing to free Lieutenant Goodman, President Assad is clearly trying to make a peace gesture as well as portray his country in a more positive light. Ever since the Beirut bombing which resulted in the deaths of 24 US servicemen, the US has accused Syria of giving tacit support for the terrorist group responsible for that and other attacks.

However, the President's statement welcoming Lieutenant Goodman's release was couched in a significantly moderate tone. "We hope that the Syrian Government will continue to work for peace in Lebanon so that all foreign

forces - Syrian, Arab and the multinational force - can come home."

Despite past US criticism of Syria, it has also been recognized in Washington that Syria had to be an essential element in an orderly withdrawal from Lebanon. Mr Jackson's success should not be seen as a sign of the US Government's slighter support for the region.

In this respect, a significant factor in the Syrian Government's role in the Lebanon crisis is the fact that it is now free to act in a more positive light. Mr Jackson's success in securing the release of Lieutenant Goodman is a good example of this. Mr Assad will be able to deal directly with Mr Assad when he returns to Damascus.

Mr Jackson's coup will have a far more complicated impact on internal Democratic Party politics in the months preceding the party convention.

Recent opinion polls have shown Mr Jackson in third place among the eight candidates, trailing behind Mr Mondale and Senator John Glenn. His highly-publicized rescue mission will vastly increase his name identification among Democratic supporters and will increase his political power within the party. But it is doubtful whether it will greatly improve his presidential prospects.

Mr Jackson has two problems: he is black and he is highly controversial. These two factors taken together mean that it is inconceivable he could attract more than a smattering of support among whites who make up the overwhelming majority of the Democratic Party. He has acknowledged that he declared his candidacy largely for the purpose of

encouraging blacks and other minorities to register as voters and to cast their votes against President Reagan.

Although he has talked about putting together a "rainbow coalition" of blacks, Hispanics and other minorities, his candidacy has even been opposed by many black leaders who feared it could divide the Democratic Party and weaken the chances of whoever is eventually nominated of ousting President Reagan.

Mr Jackson's success will certainly consolidate his appeal among blacks and will strengthen his chances of obtaining an important post in the event of the Democrats winning the November election. It will also silence many of the critics who had condemned his mission as a cynical exercise in self-promotion, even though he clearly viewed the exercise as a means of dramatizing his candidacy. But when the votes are counted at the party convention, Mr Jackson is likely to emerge as an also-ran.

## The Nigerian coup

## Handcuffed Shagari in Lagos as ruling council takes office

Lagos (Reuters) - A 19-member Supreme Military Council was sworn in yesterday as Nigeria's highest ruling body. Radio Nigeria reported.

It said three additional members were appointed to the council to join the 16 announced on Sunday. Some of them were members of the last military government which peacefully handed over power after elections in 1979.

There was no immediate word on the deliberations of the council which followed the swearing-in ceremony. It was to consider the appointment of a Federal Executive Council to act as a Cabinet. The new head of state, Major-General Mohammed Buhari, told senior civil servants on Monday that they could expect civilian ministers to be appointed to the Executive Council.

General Buhari said at yesterday's ceremony that the economic crisis which prompted the Army takeover was his Government's main priority.

"My own measure of our economic development will be based on such indicators as the availability of the essentials of life such as drinking water,

electricity, food and other such basic commodities in our local markets at prices within the reach of the lowest income earner in the country," he said, adding that traditional indices of economic growth and production did not interest him.

General Buhari repeated earlier statements that his government would stamp out corruption, fraud and waste which he said were the hallmarks of the administration of ex-President Shehu Shagari.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) quoted eyewitnesses as saying yesterday that the former President arrived in handcuffs and under military guard at Lagos airport from the northern city of Kaduna where he had been taken after his arrest in Abuja, the projected future capital in central Nigeria.

His former Vice-President, Mr Alex Ekwueme, and several governors of Nigeria's 19 states are also in detention.

●ABIDJAN: A Nigeria Airways plane left for Lagos yesterday, but the airline said that Lagos airport would still remain closed to most traffic (AFP reports).

Debt instalment paid, page 13

## Genschler suffers broken rib in crash

Bonn - Herr Hans-Dietrich Genschler, the West German Foreign Minister, broke a rib and suffered numerous cuts and bruises when his official car skidded on ice and overturned on a motorway in Saarland yesterday (Michael Binyon writes).

A spokesman for the Free Democratic Party, of which he is leader, said Herr Genschler was likely to be off work for several days and might not take part in the annual FDP Congress in Stuttgart on Friday.

Herr Genschler and the driver, who were both wearing safety belts, were injured but after first aid in hospital, the Foreign Minister was able to return to Bonn by helicopter.

## Ershar offer of talks rejected

Dhaka (Reuters) - Opposition leaders have rejected an invitation from General Ershad, the Bangladesh military ruler to join talks aimed at returning democracy to the country.

Shaikh Hasina Wazed, chief of the Awami League and head of a 15-party opposition alliance, said there would be no talks until General Ershad lifted a ban on political activity.

## Earthquake aid

Islamabad (Reuters) - Afghan authorities have begun distributing food, money and clothes to families affected by the earthquake which hit the Hindu Kush mountains. The earthquake, centred on the Pakistan-Afghan border on Saturday, claimed at least 12 dead in Pakistan.

## Reporter killed

Rio de Janeiro (AFP) - A West German radio journalist, Karl Brugger, was shot dead outside a restaurant here by a man who tried to rob him. The attacker escaped. Herr Brugger, aged 41, had spent nine years in Brazil as correspondent for the ARD radio network.

## Bus massacre

Maputo (Reuters) - As many as 60 bus passengers were killed in a Christmas Day ambush near Murrupula by guerrillas in Mozambique's northern Nampula province, diplomatic sources said. The gunmen ordered them out, stripped them and opened fire.

## Banker resigns

Ankara (Reuters) - The Turkish Central Bank Governor, Mr Osman Siklar, has resigned. The move has been expected since Mr Turgut Ozal's Government took office last month. Mr Yildirim Akturk is expected to take over.

## Kuwaiti six

Bahrain (Reuters) - A Kuwaiti woman has given birth to sextuplets, the Kuwaiti news agency reported. The four girls and two boys each weighed 2.2lb and were said to be in good health.

## Kennedy ill

Washington (AFP) - Senator Edward Kennedy was said to be in a stable condition after being taken to hospital here on Monday night with gastroenteritis. It was not known how long he would stay in hospital.

## Zulu ambush

Pietermaritzburg (AFP) - Three black policemen were killed in an ambush by 50 Zulus while they were investigating the theft of 100 goats near here. One of the owners of the stolen goats was also killed.

## Jail protest ends

Nuoro, Sardinia (AFP) - Red Brigades prisoners who went on hunger strike last month at a top security jail have ended their action. They were protesting at prison conditions.

## Jumbo rampage

Jakarta (Reuters) - Herds of hungry elephants are devastating crops around southern Sumatran villages despite efforts by farmers to drive them off by making loud noises.

## Belgian scare

Namur (Reuters) - Two rabid foxes have been found in southern Belgium, causing fears of a rabies outbreak. Health officials fear the disease could be transmitted to farmers.

## Train fired on

Paris (Reuters) - Shots were fired from a bridge near Paris at a high-speed train. Nobody was hurt but bullet marks could be seen on a window of the train.

## Pipeline plan

Moscow (Reuters) - The Soviet Union will put more than 7,450 miles of new gas pipeline into operation in 1984, the *Sovetskaya Industriya* reported.

## Fatal refusal

Eirelat (AFP) - Yvonne Dausy, aged 66, strangled her husband, Joseph, aged 77, after half-a-century of marriage "because he refused to do the shopping", police said in this northern French coastal town. Mme Dausy said that she planned to kill herself but her nerve had failed.

## Israeli jets hit twice at Palestinians

From Our Correspondent

Israeli warplanes bombed a Palestinian stronghold in the central Lebanese mountains yesterday morning, then broke the sound barrier on a later, second run over the target area.

In Beirut, a driver for the French Embassy was shot once in the head as he waited beside his car outside the home of M Edouard de Blaupre, the embassy consul.

The driver, identified as M Raymond Vautier, was in critical condition at the American University Hospital after undergoing surgery. The assailant, who fired at M Vautier with a pistol equipped with a silencer, escaped on a motor cycle.

The Israeli air strike was the eighth in Lebanon since November 1, when a lorry laden with explosives was driven into an Israeli military post near the Lebanese port city of Tyre, killing 29 Israeli soldiers and more than 30 Arab detainees.

It followed an increase in attacks on Israeli patrols in southern Lebanon, where Israel has about 15,000 troops. Tension in the south has been heightened in recent days by Israeli arrests of three Muslim prayer leaders.

In yesterday's air raid, four Kfir jets - accompanied by eight escort jets - bombed a hotel in Bhamdoun, 15 miles east of Beirut. The hotel was a headquarters for fighters loyal to Abu Moussa, a rebel Palestinian Liberation Organization chief who helped to drive the PLO chairman, Mr Yassir Arafat, from Lebanon.

The attacking jets also hit an ammunition dump near by, setting it ablaze. Syrian anti-aircraft batteries opened fire on the Israeli warplanes, but the Israeli military command in Tel Aviv said that all of its aircraft returned safely.



Officer's humiliation: A retired Pakistani Army major, Ghulam Shabbir Shah, receiving a public caning in Karachi, after an Islamic court found him guilty of raping his sister-in-law. He was also jailed for five years

## France denies pulling out of Lebanon

Paris (AFP) - France yesterday denied that its decision to switch troops from its contingent in the Beirut multinational peacekeeping force to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (Unifil) was a withdrawal from Lebanon.

Foreign Ministry and Defence sources described the move as a redeployment and emphasized France's commitment to the multinational force's mission as set out last summer: support of the legitimate Lebanese Government

and protection of Beirut's inhabitants.

The sources and the French contingent in Beirut would always be key at the level required to fulfil this mission. On Monday, France announced that at the end of this month 482 men seconded to Beirut from Unifil would rejoin their units in the south.

France is also saying that, while there is no question of withdrawal and a reaffirmation of its full support for the peacekeeping mission, it would nevertheless be happy to find a

way of avoiding any prolonged stay of its Beirut contingent.

But, for the present, it was stated, French military strength in Lebanon remained unchanged, when taking into account French troops in both forces there.

The Defence Ministry said the size of the French contingent in Beirut had constantly varied between 1,400 and 2,000 men. At no time had detailed figures been listed for the troop levels and strength of the multinational contingents.

Leading article, page 9

## Iraq signs peace pact with Kurds

Baghdad (Reuters) - President Saddam Husain has signed an agreement with the Kurdish rebel leader, Mr Jalal Talabani, for a ceasefire in Iraqi Kurdistan and broader autonomy for the 2.5 million Kurds in the area.

Diplomats yesterday said the agreement, signed last month, envisaged democratic elections to legislative and executive councils for the autonomous region in northern Iraq.

It also proposed the formation of a 40,000-member Kurdish army to "protect Kurdistan against foreign enemies" - meaning Iran, Iraq's enemy in the Gulf War.

Quoting Kurdish sources, the diplomats said Baghdad had promised to allocate 30 per cent of the state budget to rehabilitate Kurdish areas destroyed by the war in Kurdistan and to finance development projects in the region.

There was no official confirmation by the Government, but the diplomats said President Husain was expected to announce the agreement in an address to the nation on Army Day on Friday.

Nearly two decades of revolt by Iraqi Kurds ended after a 1975 treaty, under which Iraq agreed to share with Iran the Shatt al-Arab Waterway at the head of the Gulf. In exchange, Iran's late Shah withdrew support for the then Kurdish rebel leader, Mulla Mustafa Barzani. In 1977, the autonomous region in northern Iraq was created.

## Barre hits back at critics in 'sniffer plane' scandal

From Diana Gaddes, Paris

M Raymond Barre, the former Prime Minister, who, with former President Giscard d'Estaing has been accused of attempting a cover-up in the oil-detecting "sniffer aircraft" scandal, hit back yesterday.

He accused the Government of making one of France's greatest state-owned industries look ridiculous and of bringing into disrepute one of its most distinguished institutions, the Court of Accounts.

The Government had committed "a grave error" in deciding to publish the confidential report on the affair, drawn up by the Court of Accounts at the Government's request in 1980, he said in an interview in *Le Monde*.

The report, published on Monday, is highly critical of the state-owned Elf oil company's management and, by implication, of M Giscard d'Estaing and M Barre, who were

President and Prime Minister at the time.

The affair resulted in the loss of nearly 800m francs (about £70m) of public money in what now appears to have been a fraud.

The present Socialist Government is evidently delighted by its predecessors' discomfort: M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, did not seek to hide his exultation in denouncing the "naivety and irresponsibility" of those involved.

He said the Government would set up a judicial inquiry to establish whether the Italian and Belgian "inventors" of the "sniffer aircraft", Signor Aldo Bonassoli and Count Alain de Villegas, were "trunks or crooks". The inquiry would also try to find out what became of 400m francs transferred to the inventors' company in Switzerland and never recovered.

## Tunisia's bread revolt

## An aging leader, fragile economy and a country divided

Paris (AFP) - Tunisia, nestling between Algeria and Libya on Africa's north coast, has always been a stable, pro-Western Arab country, but efforts to bolster the economy and cut budget deficits - notably food price increases - led to the latest unrest.

The riots which began last Thursday in southern Tunisia and spread yesterday to Tunis and Sfax, the country's two largest cities, have been attributed to the doubling of the price of bread and large increases on other staple foods.

In 1983, the Government paid about 180m dinars (£164m) in price subsidies, more than 60 per cent of which went to cereal products. The Government has been discussing for months how to reduce these subsidies.

Tunisia, a country of 63,170 square miles and an estimated population of 6.8 million, has suffered from the world econ-



President Bourguiba: A bias to the fertile north



Mr Mzali: Trying to redress the balance

omies in 1964, it has represented the country's second largest earner of hard currency after tourism.

After a bad year in 1982, when the growth rate hit only 1.4 per cent, the economy was expected to expand by 4.5 per cent in 1983. That is respectable, although below the 6 per cent predicted by government planners. Inflation was kept to 3.7 per cent.

But the world crisis, rise of the dollar and drought, which affected many crops in the more fertile north, took its toll. The Government, since independence in 1956, has encouraged the development of the middle classes and industry in the north.

The problems began in the south, where date-growers complained that bungled marketing failed to move an abundant crop. This poor, under-developed desert area has been neglected in favour of the

north. And the people in the south were hardest hit by the price rises.

Since his nomination as Prime Minister in 1980, Mr Muhammad Mzali, has been trying to bring more prosperity to the south, but it is a difficult and long-term project. Traditionally, the south has been more restive - and more vulnerable to the machinations of Libya's Colonel Muammar Gaddafi.

In January, 1980, the southern city of Gafsa was occupied by armed opponents of the Government, said to have been infiltrated from Libya. There have been suggestions from observers in Tunisia and Paris that Colonel Gaddafi may have been behind the "bread revolt", but there is no evidence to support that.

The disturbances are the most serious since the three-day riots in January, 1978, which accompanied a general strike.

## ADVERTISEMENT

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December 31st

- Today's joyful taste of utopia comes as the fulfilment of 1983. The Year of the Unified Field, bringing with it the promise of Unified Field Based Civilization in 1984.
- United States and Soviet Union to resume high level talks.
  - West German Defence Minister and US Joint Foreign Minister to meet.
  - East German Head of State calls for NATO and Warsaw Pact countries to renounce military force and maintain peaceful relations close to the border.
  - Calm returns to Lebanese capital Beirut and surrounding mountains.
  - Improving relations between China and Netherlands.
  - "Ray of light" seen in U.S.-Nicaragua relations, says U.S. Secretary of State.
  - U.S.A. offers economic assistance to nine Caribbean nations.
  - This is only the beginning of the revival of Britain. Britain is now a country to rely on and a country with a future. We want men and women to set their hopes high and to carry them through into reality," says Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.
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  - Mozambique offers amnesty to dissidents.
  - New York State, U.S.A., introduces law to protect health of citizens by eliminating environmental pollution.
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## Kremlin says the West must relent to make progress at Stockholm

There would be no hope of progress on arms control at the Stockholm conference, on January 17, unless the West changed its position, *Pravda* said yesterday.

In a lengthy headline denunciation of NATO *Pravda* gave no hint of Soviet readiness to return to the abandoned Geneva talks.

The article blamed the breakdown, and said there was little point in Moscow returning to a negotiating table "which is now becoming surrounded by a palisade of rockets".

There have been conflicting signals from the Kremlin since Russia walked out of both the talks on medium-range missiles and the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (SALT), with some commentators hinting at flexibility and others taking a more rigid line. The official position remains that voiced by President Andropov at the end of November when he said Russia would only return if cruise and Pershing 2 missiles were withdrawn.

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The lack of authoritative statements since then has been attributed to Mr Andropov's illness and absence from political life. In a speech for the Central Committee plenum last week which he failed to attend, Mr Andropov made no reference at all to East-West issues.

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, is to meet Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State at the Stockholm conference. Observers said yesterday's *Pravda* article indicated either that the Kremlin wanted to give a warning against high expectations before the meeting or that the Soviet leadership was unable to formulate new initiatives.

*Pravda* referred to a Supreme Soviet resolution last week calling for a "change for the better" at Stockholm, but said Moscow saw no sign that Washington was willing to compromise.

"Perhaps Washington has changed its mind and decided to restore the situation which existed before deployment"

*Pravda* asked rhetorically, "But no, nothing of the kind. Perhaps an attack of conscience has made the Americans regret offering the Soviet Union totally unacceptable options? The answer is still no."

"The United States was not interested" in agreement with Russia on nuclear missiles, nuclear tests, chemical weapons, conventional weapons or the military uses of space, *Pravda* declared, adding: "The Stockholm conference will show whether America and NATO are prepared to give a clear and businesslike reply to the Soviet Union's constructive proposals."

In a related development Tass yesterday gave warning that "hot-headed strategists" in the Pentagon were planning to increase American missile potential in the Far East - and said secret negotiations were under way for the stationing of cruise missiles in Japan and South Korea. "But the Soviet Union will not be intimidated by American nuclear policies," Tass emphasized.

## Row over church in cruise base

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Mr Angelo Rizzo, the bishop of Ragusa, Sicily, has been publicly criticized by a group of young priests for lessening the foundation stone of Roman Catholic church being built inside the American missile base at Comiso.

Father Giancarlo Griglio, who has a parish in Ragusa, said during the new year mass: "For us Christians it is an insult that inside the temple of Mars there should be the temple of God." Young people who struggle for peace and brotherhood, even if not baptized, were doing God's will and was with them, he added. Other priests made similar comments.

In reply, the bishop said that a reject a guest was a form of hostility. "We are very happy that Americans professing our faith can have a place of worship inside the missile base... these our brothers are Mr Reagan nor Andropov; they are men of the people."

They were, Mr Rizzo said, soldiers who were at Comiso to help Europeans to have peace at home. The blessing of the foundation stone had been proved everywhere.

## Russia accused of lying about aid

New York (NYT) - A British Government study of foreign aid contends that the aid given to developing countries by the Soviet bloc is far smaller than the amounts the Soviet Union and its East European allies claim to give.

Russia, the study says, reported to the United Nations that it gave \$44bn (£30bn) in aid between 1976 and 1980. The study asserts that the actual amount of aid given was only \$8bn, a small proportion of the Soviet gross national product (GNP).

Soviet and East European aid generally compares unfavourably with that of Western donors. Moreover, a large group of aid recipients receive "negative aid" from the Soviet bloc. According to the study, the repayments on outstanding aid loans made by these countries are larger than the amount they get in new aid from the Soviet bloc.

The study was completed last May by the Economic Service of the Foreign Office and circulated privately among Western delegations to the United Nations. It was undertaken to evaluate Soviet statements, made to the UN's Economic and Social Council.

that in essence the Soviet bloc gives proportionately more aid to the Third World than Western countries do.

The UN has set 0.7 per cent of the GNP as a target for industrialized nations to give as aid to developing countries.

The Soviet Union, in statements to the UN, has claimed that its aid rose from 0.9 per cent of the GNP in 1976 to 1.3 per cent in 1980.

The British study says that total Soviet aid to other countries amounted to 0.19 per cent of the country's GNP in 1980 compared with a composite total of 0.33 per cent for the leading 17 Western aid giving countries in 1981.

There is no sign, the study adds, that the amount of Soviet aid has increased during the past three years.

In recent years, the combined East European disbursements were less than those of Belgium alone.

The figures and estimates cited in the study are those of the British Government and the secretariat of the Development Assistance Committee, which is a sub-committee of the 17 biggest aid donors of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

## Fifth year of Afghan war

### Kabul security fails to stop guerrillas

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Afghan rebels managed to out the overwhelming Soviet security in Kabul around the anniversary of the Soviet intervention on December 27.

Over several days they backed in the western district of Silo, injuring 11 soldiers. They shot dead three Soviet soldiers in Khair Khana in the north-west, and an unexploded bomb was removed from the backs of flats largely occupied by Soviet officials at Micro-

On these incidents were reported yesterday by Western diplomats in Delhi, but one incident that was reported by the Afghan official news agency took place on the Sorubi district. The Bakhtiar Information Agency published a photograph on December 31 showing an electricity pylon which had been blown up by the rebels.

Because of what the diplomats describe as extremely tight security nothing more was accomplished on the capital. But the situation in the country's second city, Kandahar in the south, is very different.

According to recent visitors almost half of Kandahar has been destroyed, and scarcely a building remains unmarked by the fighting there. Firing is heard constantly, and the bazaars close at 11am, after which Mujahidin guerrillas carrying their weapons can be seen wandering the streets.

On Christmas Day another visitor to the city reported that he had seen Soviet MiGs and helicopters bombing the built-up areas. According to diplomats in Pakistan the Afghan rebels seized the customs post on the Khyber Pass border with



Afghanistan on the night of December 18. The guerrillas from the moderate resistance group killed 20 Afghan Army officers and men, according to rebels sources.

The customs post, the military area close by and a petrol storage facility were destroyed. The site was abandoned on December 21, but the other resistance groupings were reportedly unhappy about the incursion.

According to Western diplomats, the moderate group was eager to do something newsworthy to mark the anniversary, but the others objected to the interruption of normal and perfectly legitimate cross-border traffic.

Soviet troops are very rarely seen in Kandahar, and despite the fact that there are three cordons of Afghan troops around it the centre is said to be virtually under Mujahidin control each afternoon.

● ISLAMABAD: Lieutenant General Chulani Jilani Khan, the governor of Punjab, expressed serious concern that the district administration to ensure that these purchases were not made (Hasan Akhtar writes).

## Rebel aircraft attacks Nicaraguan oil port

Managua (Reuters, AP) - Rebels launched an air attack on Nicaragua's Pacific port of Puerto Sandino, yesterday, the Defence Ministry announced.

An unidentified aircraft fired rockets at port installations, but there were no reports of casualties or damage.

Later, a number of speed boats fired on a Nicaraguan fishing vessel near the port, killing a seaman. Navy vessels pursued the boats, but they escaped.

The oil facilities of Puerto

Sandino, 40 miles west of Managua, have been repeatedly attacked in the past few months by the US-backed Nicaraguan Democratic Forces (FON), operating out of Honduras.

On Monday Nicaragua said 40 rebels died in an attack on the town of San Fernando, six miles from the Honduran border.

Between December 27 and January 1 there have been five clashes in the north of Nicaragua.

## Bangladesh expels more diplomats

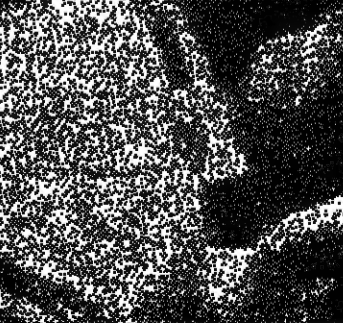
Dhaka (AFP) - A second group of Soviet diplomats, declared undesirable by the Bangladesh Government, left here yesterday on an Aeroflot flight, airport sources reported.

The nine diplomats and their wives were due to leave on Monday afternoon but was delayed by the late arrival of the incoming Aeroflot flight.

Five diplomats left Bangladesh on December 26 after complaints by the Government that their activities were incompatible with their status.

The Foreign Ministry last month handed a list of diplomats to be withdrawn from Dhaka to the Soviet Ambassador. Earlier, the Government had ordered the closure of the Soviet cultural centres in Dhaka and Chittagong.

Russia used to have the biggest mission in Dhaka, with 36 accredited diplomats and another four in Chittagong.



Boxer dies of brain damage

Italian bantamweight professional boxer Salvatore Laserra collapsing in the ring in Milan on December 10 after winning his semi-final bid for the National title on points. He died of brain damage on Monday. He had been in coma since the fight against Italian Marzio Lupino.

## Aquino inquiry finds few willing witnesses

From Keith Dalton, Manila

At least 70 people were in a position to witness the murder of the Philippine opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, investigators said yesterday. But after three months of hearings, involving 48 witnesses, only three soldiers claim to have seen the actual killing, the general counsel, Mr Andres

## Harare promotes who acquitted

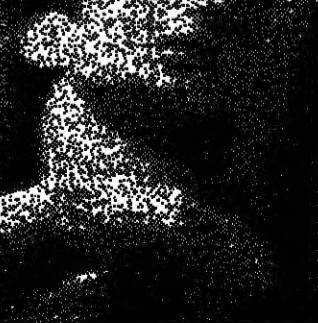
From Stephen Taylor, Harare

The judge who acquitted six white air force officers of sabotage in August was sworn in yesterday as Zimbabwe's acting Chief Justice by President Robert Mugabe.

The appointment of Mr Justice Enoch Dumbutshena, aged 63, followed the premature departure of Mr Justice Telford Georges. Mr Dumbutshena became the first black High Court judge in 1980 and Judge President in May last year.

Mr Georges resigned last month before his three-year contract expired to take up the post of Chief Justice of the Bahamas. It had nothing to do with the rumoured conflict between the Government and judiciary, he said.

Some High Court judges are said to be troubled by detention orders issued by the Government.



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## South Africa and its neighbours

### Hostility curbed by de

In the concluding article of his series on southern Africa, Michael Hornsby considers how the black states of the region have responded collectively, and individually to the challenge posed by the last bastion of white power.

Divide-and-rule has been the guiding principle of South Africa's successful subjugation of its aboriginal black population, helped in no small measure by the inability of the blacks themselves to unite. To some extent the same is true of South Africa's relations with the black states on or near its borders.

Their histories, economic circumstances, and degree of dependence on South Africa, as well as the political preferences and temperaments of their leaders, vary widely, making it difficult for them to present a common front to the white-ruled giant, beyond demonstrating a shared dislike of Pretoria's race policies.

At one extreme, Malawi, under the idiosyncratic Dr Hastings Banda, is unique in Black Africa in having full diplomatic relations with Pretoria and positively parading its South African connexion. The South Africans provided most of the initial financing for Dr Banda's new capital at Lilongwe.

At the other extreme, Zimbabwe and Tanzania refuse any formal political contact with the Pretoria regime, a policy of some risk for Zimbabwe, given its proximity to and close economic links with South Africa, but less painful for Tanzania, which has little or no trade with the republic and is too far away to feel threatened militarily.

In between, there are varying degrees of dialogue. President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia has held summit meetings with both Mr P W Botha, the present South African Prime Minister, and his predecessor, the late Mr John Vorster.

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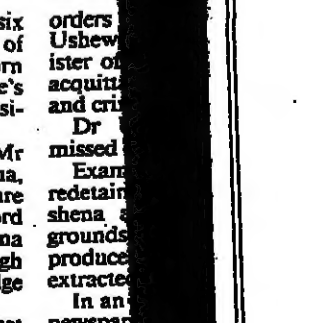
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## Cyprus peace offer by Turkey

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara

Joining the new year peace offensive by the Turkish Cypriots, Turkey announced yesterday its decision to withdraw 1,500 more of the troops it has stationed in Cyprus since Ankara's military intervention in 1974.

The Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman said the withdrawal, to be completed by the end of February, was intended "to contribute to the constructive efforts of the Turkish Cypriots aimed at the creation of an atmosphere of goodwill and mutual trust on the island".

He also emphasized Turkey's appreciation of "the hand of peace and the comprehensive set of goodwill measures" offered by Mr Raouf Denktas, President of the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" which has only been recognized by Turkey.

This decision, and the diplomatic, political and economic support pledged by Ankara to the new republic put Turkey's hopes for a continuing flow of economic and military aid from its Western allies in jeopardy.

The US Congress and various European forums have made their displeasure clear, and are now preparing to "review the progress of the issue".

While denying a coordinated move, the Turkish spokesman confirmed that the announced withdrawal was decided after "consultations" with the Turkish-Cypriot leadership.

Mr Denktas made a number of conciliatory proposals last Monday, aimed at persuading the Greek Cypriots to start negotiations.

Reiterating that the unilateral declaration of independence by the Turkish Cypriots did not preclude an eventual federal state, Mr Denktas offered to place part of the Varosha suburb of Famagusta under the jurisdiction of the UN peace-keeping force in Cyprus, to allow the resettlement of Greek-Cypriot refugees.

He also offered to permit the reopening of Nicosia airport, and to allow an international commission to start investigating the fate of Cypriots reported missing since Turkey's armed intervention.

The Turkish spokesman said that Turkey was not informed of the existence of "peace plans" drafted by the United States and Britain, as reported frequently by the Greek-Cypriot press.

## Adoption racket smashed

Rome (Reuters) - Sicilian police have exposed a child adoption racket in which childless couples paid thousands of dollars for the children of anonymous Yugoslav mothers.

At least 18 cases of suspected illegal adoption are being investigated and five people have been charged with criminal conspiracy.

Investigators believe infertile couples living in prosperous cities in northern Italy paid up to £8,250 for a child apparently to circumvent the cumbersome adoption process.

## Manhunt in Spain for Grapo police killers

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

A nationwide manhunt continued in Spain yesterday for the killers of two policemen in Madrid on Monday. The search remained centred on the capital and environs.

An anonymous caller telephoned various news media here late on Monday night with the message that Grapo (First of October Anti-Fascist Resistance Groups), carried out the assassinations in revenge for the fatal shooting of its former leader, Juan Martin Luna, who

died in a gunfight with police in Barcelona 13 months ago.

Grapo has only five or six activists outside Spanish prisons, police said here yesterday. Initially both ETA, the Basque separatist organization, and Grapo were under suspicion for the Madrid killings.

Spain's most wanted man is Señor José Balmón Castell, aged 41, a mechanic from the southern province of Cordoba, who is thought to be the leader of Grapo.

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After rumours that he was dying, President Assad of Syria reappeared this week with US presidential candidate Jesse Jackson. This is the first interview since his illness

## The ailing fox fights back

by Michel Colomes and Mireille Duteil

With a very Oriental sense of discretion, Hafez el-Assad refused to specify the nature of the illness that has afflicted him. But certain details of his conversation, the length of his convalescence, the exercises that his doctors have prescribed and his somewhat stooped, shaky way of walking gave us the impression that he had been the victim of a heart attack. The patient is apparently well on the way to recovery.

The Syrian president received us in an ordinary livingroom, with cretonne armchairs and large bay windows overlooking a garden. Twenty minutes earlier, a black Mercedes driven at breakneck speed by security agents had brought us to his villa, located about 15 kilometres outside of Damascus, in the Ghouta area, the "orchard of Damascus". Assad seemed to have been living here for the past two weeks.

At almost the very same moment, Palestinians loyal to Yasser Arafat were fleeing Tripoli under the protection of the French navy. Assad, who had forced them into such desperate straits, came to life again after an illness that cannot possibly have been merely "diplomatic". None the less, there is something odd about the coincidence.

On November 12, he disappeared from public view. The next day, he had been scheduled to meet with Amin Gemayel, the Lebanese president.

Aides of the autocratic and secretive leader first let it be known that the president had been treated for appendicitis. Two weeks later, however, there was still no news about the patient. An Israeli investigation came to the eminently logical conclusion that it was most unlikely that Assad should have had his appendix removed: that had already been done in Cairo in 1959. Although he is only 53, Assad is apparently a diabetic. Some observers suggested that, like another sick celebrity, Andropov, Assad could have heart trouble.

The intense interest in the health of the Syrian president is due to his emergence in June 1982 as key Arab figure in the Middle East conflict. The media dubbed him the "Damascus Fox" and the "Arab Bismarck".

He appeared badly hurt by the Israeli offensives which began in that month: the Israelis forced him to accept their cease-fire, and he was blocked from helping the Palestinians trapped in Beirut.

But Assad proved shrewd. He played on America's wavering, Gemayel's imprudence, Arafat's clumsiness and Soviet ambition. He managed to turn the situation around in less than 10 months. Even before the events of 1982, he had convinced the Soviets to go beyond merely replacing the equipment that had been lost. Wasn't he their only possible foothold in the Middle East? He unleashed the militias

of his Druze and Shiite allies against Gemayel, who had signed a peace treaty with Israel on May 13. Assad threatened the Lebanese president's shaky authority.

Assad launched an army of missiles, armed and supported by him, against Arafat, whose mistake was not to have sought Assad's protection. And, finally, he pushed the Americans into becoming entangled in a multinational force whose massive role was risky and unenviable.

This is the lucky gambler, the inscrutable diplomat, the brute master at dodging and thrusting, who disappeared overnight. On December 1, we became the first western observers to see the president in more than a month.

Avoiding direct reference to the nature of his illness, he gave details of his regimen for recovery. He had lightened his work and taken two walks a day. "I still feel young," he said. "But my body and my head don't permit me to stay as young as I like. We're all in the same boat, anyway. Everyone feels the physiological difference between what he is and what he has become."

Assad predicted he will resume his normal activities within a few weeks. "But in fact I never interrupted my activities. You know, in the final job is to know how to use the phone. So I ran the country by phone."

While in hospital, Assad said, he called in the country's leaders. "As a matter of fact, that started many rumours about how I had set up a committee of five, or six, to run the country. I can't understand the basis of such rumours, since the country is run by five or six people anyway."

The burden of power is especially heavy for a ruler in the turbulent Middle East, but Assad expressed equanimity about the pressures. "Everybody knows that I work too hard. But that is how I was brought up. Working makes me both sad and happy. I asked my doctor, who wanted to force me to abide by a stricter discipline. 'You want me to be unemployed?' This year, during the May 1st celebrations, I was on my feet for eight hours straight. Today, the doctors tell me that this is no longer compatible with my state of health. The conclusion I have drawn is that next time, I'll stay for eight hours - but sitting down."

He professes optimism about the prospects of a second conference on Lebanon in Geneva. "We have always emphasized the idea of Lebanese reconciliation. The results of the previous conference in Geneva are very positive. If they were accepted the



President Assad pictured during the interview: recovering from a heart attack?

resolutions would provide for a reasonable solution."

But Assad says though certain points have been clearly defined, others have still been left open to interpretation. "The most important point on which a precise definition was reached is the agreement on Lebanon's Arab identity. For us, the issue is self-evident. It is as if the two of you had to get together in order to reach the conclusion that you are both French. However, in Lebanon, this was a real political problem. Luckily it was solved, which is all the more important since the May 17 agreement between Israel and Lebanon stripped Lebanon of its Arab identity. The second important point is that there is a consensus that this agreement does not further Lebanese unity and that the issue will be discussed again in Geneva."

Assad argued his case for Syrian presence in Lebanon by making a bold assertion. "We may be divided into two independent states, but that does not mean that we are two different nations. And France is one of the countries that is most aware of this fact. When France exercised its mandate over Lebanon, it linked the two economies, most notably by giving them a common currency. I would even argue that the feeling of kinship between Syria and Lebanon runs deeper than it does between states in the United States."

We asked him about France's moral obligation towards Lebanon, and he answered by stressing that Lebanon is part and parcel of the Arab world. "It all depends on what you mean by moral obligation," he said. "If you mean a residue of the colonial period, then shouldn't the moral commitment apply to Syria as well? You can't compare today's France with yesterday's. New relationships must be built on a different basis. We have always said that we hope that France will play a more important role in the Middle

East. We have said this to the French leaders. But we have also told them that it must be a French role, or else a role within a European framework. If it is not, it loses its identity."

He was far less conciliatory towards the Americans. They have, he says, a "quasi-monopoly. And their troops have become combat forces in Lebanon, pitted not even against the Syrian state, but against factions, groups and Lebanese militias. Can you imagine. A superpower fighting local militias. And we know perfectly well that the Americans are trying to draw France closer into the web of the American-dominated multinational force. We have tried in every possible way to avoid confronting the French forces in Lebanon. But we have none the less had trouble with the French forces."

Assad was at pains to prove his intentions are honest. He said Syria received the secretary general of the French Ministry of Foreign Relations in Damascus "just after France had bombed some of our positions in Lebanon. Moreover, our newspapers never publicized the fact that the planes that bombed our positions were French planes. We simply spoke of planes belonging to the multinational force. We did, however, warn France through diplomatic channels that this type of action must not be repeated."

The danger of escalation with the United States was on Assad's mind. "We are fighting each other, but that does not stop us from meeting. Rumsfeld, the American envoy, was in Damascus a few days ago. I had told one of his predecessors: 'I can guarantee that we won't come fight you in your own country. But if you come into our country, we will fight you, of that I can assure you. I recognize the fact that you are a great power and that you have enormous means at your disposal. But our will to resist is just as enormous.' I do not wish to pursue this

confrontation with the US but I have no choice. When the Americans bomb us, we are forced to defend ourselves."

American interest in Lebanon was the object of Assad's scorn. "Lebanon is neither an economic power, nor an oil-rich power, nor a military power. So I don't see what interest it can have for the Americans. If it is a question of keeping the Soviet Union out of Lebanon, the Soviet Union is not in Lebanon, and never was present there, neither before nor after the Israeli invasion. If the aim is to do away with the Syrian presence in Lebanon, Syria, as I told you, has been at home in Lebanon for centuries. Eight years ago, we answered the call of the president of the Lebanese Republic and the heart-rending call of the Lebanese people. We paid our tribute of financial and human sacrifices to answer this call."

"If we had had a specific purpose in Lebanon, why wouldn't we have accomplished it long ago? If we had had an agreement with the Soviet Union to further Soviet interests in Lebanon, why wouldn't we already have implemented it? Finally, if we had had plans to attack Israel from Lebanese territory, why wouldn't we already have done so?"

What about the Israeli claim that the aim of their 1982 invasion was to bring peace to Galilee and stop the attacks against their own people by putting an end to the chaos in Lebanon?

"One can ask oneself whether Israeli security is more assured now, after the invasion of Lebanon. The Lebanese, who feel colonized by the Israelis, are resisting the occupation. I am convinced that the Israelis lost 40 times more men than if the internal situation had continued. The only thing that the Israelis have won is that more blood has flowed on their side, but also on the Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian side. Nobody in the world has made more sacrifices than we have to end the war in Lebanon."

© Le Point, 1983

moreover...  
Miles Kington

## Now for the Galtieri Diaries

The festive period must have been ruin for many people by reading that General Galtieri was to be court-martialled on charges of murder, torture, etc. How could they do this to the ever-popular Argentine columnist? Luckily, our late mailbag from the general shows that he still in good heart, and still anxious to answer your questions and problems. Or to you, General!

This court-martial, General, is it really going to happen? And did you do all the things? Well, did you? - J. R. of Shepherd Bush.

General Galtieri writes: Yes, my fiercest this court-martial is really going to happen. But probably not in my lifetime. It is so important for the new government to announce a court-martial. To have a court-martial is not so important. In fact, would be a mistake for the government. It would give publicity to my book.

What book? - J. R. of Shepherd Bush.

General Galtieri writes: My friend, nobody tell you? All big trials are men prelude to a best-selling book. My book to be called *The Galtieri Diaries*, with introduction by Adolf Hitler. It is an inside story of the Malvinas War as I was it day by day from the highest level, but the light of subsequent events must revision has been necessary.

Remember that in our country a court-martial is rather like the sacking of football manager in your country. I am Terry Neill of Argentina. You may surprised to find that I know about your unfortunate Mr Neill, but I have a private service which gives me news from around the world about military matters. I naturally I am interested when I see headline: "Gunnery Loss Again: Heads Roll". Believe me, I know what it is like: one's gunners to lose again. Chin up, Terry. At least you are not under house arrest.

You haven't answered the other question. Did you do all those things? - J. R. again.

General Galtieri writes: I would love answer this, but alas it is *sub judice*. I have a saying in Argentina: a man presumed innocent until he disappears. What do you think about the news from Nigeria? - S.K. of Totnes.

General Galtieri writes: Yes, tremendous, is it not? The first big news of 1984 about generals taking over a country! It goes to show that progress is still possible. Out with corrupt civilians - in with honest soldiers. A lesson for us all.

You must have been asked this recently, but what do you think of George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-four*? - N.S. Newcastle.

General Galtieri writes: I first read it under the misapprehension that it was contemporary novel, and as such I found a sober, plain account of Argentina at the time. Since being placed under house arrest I have come to see it differently and I now view it as a chilling forecast of the future. What happens when you are placed and house arrest? - K.M. of London.

General Galtieri writes: Your house arrested and taken away, and when you come home, there is nothing there! No seriously, it just means that you are given guard to make sure nothing happens to you, which of course is a great relief.

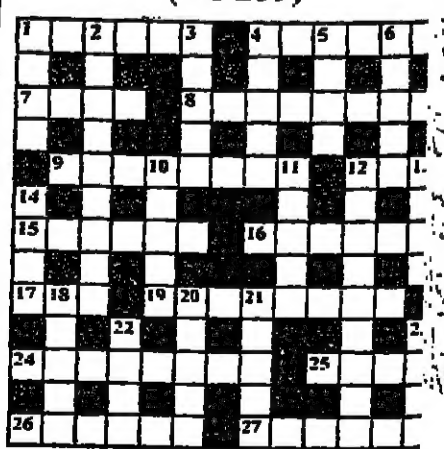
What did you get for Christmas? - C.J. of Bath.

General Galtieri writes: Very domestic things - a new pistol, a medal-cleaning kit, a polo stick with concealed sword, etc. Oh funny thing happened which I must tell you about. My guard was opening all my Christmas presents for me, a matter of security, and he came to a copy of Dan Jonathan Miller's *Pop-Up Book of the Body*. Well, pop-up books were a new concept to him, so when he opened it pages and it popped up at him, his immediate reaction was to fire back, so I pulled his gun and shot the book dead! Now have Jonathan Miller's *Lie-Flat Book of the Body*.

What are your resolutions for 1984? M.C. of Brighton.

General Galtieri writes: To move about very quietly. To look both ways when leaving the house. To spend a lot of tin with my lawyer. And to be ready an available when and if the government should change hands. Meanwhile, a happy new year to all my readers, and keep those letters rolling in!

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 239)



- ACROSS
- 1 Reiterate (6)
  - 4 Dismiss from job (3,3)
  - 7 Flower holder (4)
  - 8 Not guilty (8)
  - 9 Facial hairs (8)
  - 12 Snake-like fish (3)
  - 15 Layout sketch (6)
  - 16 Dais (6)
  - 17 Immediately (3)
  - 19 Gun fight (5,3)
  - 24 Adoption (8)
  - 25 Imprint vividly (4)
  - 26 Building floor (6)
  - 27 Shortcoming (6)
- DOWN
- 1 Speak angrily (4)
  - 2 Fast as possible (4,5)
  - 3 Deceitful plan (5)
  - 4 Passenger ship (5)
  - 5 Jabber (4)
  - 6 Stolen goods dealer (4,5)
  - 8 Breaks suddenly (5)
  - 10 Reconnoiter (5)
  - 11 Occurrence (9)
  - 12 Not effective (4)
  - 14 Enthusiastic (4)
  - 15 Overture (5)
  - 16 Promiscuous woman (5)
  - 21 Lubricated (5)
  - 22 Peaty ground (4)
  - 23 Close (4)

SOLUTION TO No 238  
ACROSS: 1 Bishop 5 Ruby 9 Hairy 9 Impass  
11 Immodest 13 Idle 15 Theatrical 18 Coc  
19 Sincere 22 Reading 23 Bacon 24 Ba  
25 Yonder  
DOWN: 2 Idiom 3 Hay 4 Painstakingly 5 Rog  
6 Beside 7 Chain 10 Egg 12 To 14 T  
16 Focata 16 Scar 17 Teeny 20 Uncle 21 Si  
24 Rin

## Brushing-up on an artist who hid his work from the world

Nineteen eighty-four is likely to be the year when two leading exponents of German expressionist art in Britain finally begin to receive the recognition due to them in their adopted country. One of them, Martin Bloch, was the subject of a recent BBC television documentary. The other, Heinz Koppel, once a pupil of Bloch, will soon have one of his paintings hung in the Tate Gallery in London.

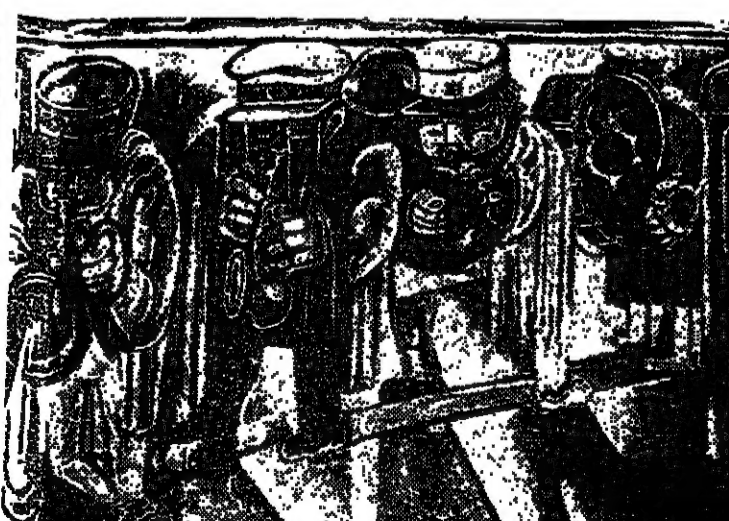
Bloch, who died in 1954, is the better known of the two. Koppel, though widely praised in the 1950s and early 60s, later withdrew from public view and, when he died in 1980, left more than 250 works hardly seen outside his studio.

"Koppel will inevitably come to be seen as an important artist," says David Fraser Jenkins of the Tate Gallery. "His work is undoubtedly brilliant and has found support from a number of us at the Tate."

Plans are being made for a Koppel retrospective exhibition: Fraser Jenkins has drawn up a tentative list of pictures which he hopes will be shown at a London gallery before touring the country. In a feasibility study for such an exhibition, Fraser Jenkins wrote: "A retrospective exhibition of Heinz Koppel is without question most desirable: not only is his work very remarkable and of high quality, it is little known..."

Heinz Koppel was born into a Berlin Jewish family in 1919. His commitment to painting began early, as his elder brother recalls: "He simply refused to do anything else. He had painting lessons with a White Russian named Fallier who had settled in Berlin. I remember having to go with him because he was too young to cross the city by himself."

In 1933 the Koppel family fled from the Nazis and settled in Prague. Heinz declined to continue his formal education, but his interest in art remained strong, and in 1934 he spent some time in Italy with the Russian émigré artist Gregory Osheeroff, a family friend.



From left: Sir Cedric Morris; Heinz Koppel's "Street Band"; Koppel photographed in 1978 by his son Gideon

It was when he met Martin Bloch in London two years later that the course of Koppel's career was set. Bloch had left Germany in 1934 and, after spending some time in Denmark, had arrived in London and opened a school of painting. Koppel studied with him for almost two years and Bloch became the most important influence on his art.

By the early years of the Second World War, Koppel was already beginning to attract attention as a painter, though he was still in his twenties. He taught at the Burslem School of Art, Stoke-on-Trent, and in 1942 one of his works appeared in an exhibition at the Modern Art Gallery in London. A period of convalescence in Wales (where his father had opened a factory after escaping from Czechoslovakia) that Koppel met the artist and teacher Esther Grainger, who ran community art classes at Pontypridd, and was introduced by her to the celebrated Sir Cedric Morris.

"Cedric was always impressed by

a good painter", Esther Grainger recalls, and Heinz was certainly that. Cedric had tremendous respect for his work. Koppel visited Morris's legendary painting school/commune at Benton End in Suffolk, and Morris later got him a job as painting instructor at the Merthyr Tydfil Education Settlement, in which Morris was closely involved.

Originally founded as an amenity for the unemployed during the Depression, the Merthyr Settlement continued as a means of relaxation and education for war workers and their families, and Koppel found himself teaching miners, factory hands, housewives and children.

To him there was no difference between amateur and professional painting, and by 1947 he had organized a successful exhibition of his pupils' work in Cardiff, under the auspices of the Arts Council. Some of his own paintings were included in the show, but so that there should be no distinction between pupil and teacher they were not identified.

During the next 10 years, the work of Heinz Koppel and of his students became well known throughout the country. The Settlement classes grew into the Merthyr Tydfil Arts Centre, with Koppel as principal, and the exhibitions moved out of Wales. In 1954, the art critic of the *Daily Worker* noted a show of the art centre's work at the Whitechapel Gallery in London: "The best works are based on real knowledge of Welsh scenes... technical blemishes... are outweighed by the abundance of fresh ideas."

Koppel's own work was also being widely seen. During the late 1950s and early 60s, there were exhibitions at the Glynn Vivian gallery in Swansea and the Kingly in London, followed by a series of shows at the Beaux Arts. Of one picture, a critic wrote that it "contains something of the power of true vision, as might an early Roualt, not pleasing to the many but the elect will be satisfied."

It seemed that Koppel's success was assured. Not only were his

paintings being seen, but they were also selling. One very striking work, "Merthyr Blues", went to a private collection in the United States, while others went to both private collectors and institutions in Wales, the Midlands and London. But then, as far as the public and critics were concerned, Heinz Koppel disappeared. Having taught at Cwmberwell and Hornsey, he moved to Liverpool to become senior lecturer in painting, and withdrew completely from the exhibition circuit.

"The bulk of his work", according to a study commissioned by the Welsh Arts Council two years ago, "has not been exhibited, not through lack of outside interest but through his own particular independence: he himself rejected a retrospective exhibition at the Camden Arts Centre."

For 15 years he worked in complete obscurity, experimenting with abstracts, geometric pictures, spray-paint and "construction paintings" using branches, Perspex, chain and chicken-wire. He laboured, too, on a monumental

David Sinclair



# A surfeit



**cook à la grecque**  
old as a salad. In this  
well-known dish is by  
all means the best. A mixture of  
fennel with mush-  
rooms is much more interest-  
ing if the dish is to be  
eaten on its own. Artichoke  
Put the wine  
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lemon juice, o-  
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seeds, black pep-  
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## Rachel Cullen

**SMIRN**  
IF IT ISN'T SM  
IT ISN'T SM

**TOOTH  
RNOFF**

**cook à la grecque**  
old as a salad. In this  
well-known dish is by  
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**IF IT ISN'T SMOOTH  
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3 small onions, chopped  
8 small onions, about 450g (1lb) in all  
225g (8oz) tightly closed button mushrooms

Put the wine and water in a large, heavy pan and add the lemon juice, olive oil, garlic, bay leaf, coriander seeds, fennel seeds, black pepper and a little salt. Bring to the boil, reduce the heat and simmer for 10

Melt the butter in a heavy frying or sauté pan and add the whole chicory spears. Turn them in the butter, cover the pan and cook the spears gently, turning them from time to time. In 20 to 30 minutes, when the spears are tender, turn up the

With some  
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**ALLDERS of Groydon**

Mushrooms are not the only vegetable to cook *à la grecque* and serve cold as a salad. In this case the best-known dish is by no means the best. A mixture of onions and fennel with mushrooms is much more interesting, especially if the dish is to be eaten on its own. Artichoke

Melt the butter in a heavy frying or sauté pan and add the whole chicory spears. Turn them in the butter, cover the pan and cook the spears gently, turning them from time to time. In 20 to 30 minutes, when the spears are tender, turn up the

**With some Trinitone and the**

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y Street Arcade, Leeds  
Lillywhites Department  
ALLDERS of Croydon



THE TIMES  
DIARYPolitical  
screening

Newly-opened government archives for 1953 reveal that Shirley Williams (then Cailin) and Peter Parker (later chairman of British Rail) got on the wrong side of Winston Churchill. That May Churchill wrote to the BBC's Director-General, Sir Ian Jacob, to complain about political bias on television. The reason was the ubiquity of prospective Labour party candidates, especially Miss Cailin and Mr Parker, who were co-presenters of a series called *Our Concern* in the *Future and the Past*. The BBC hierarchy, ultra-sensitive to such charges at a time when independent television was being discussed by the Cabinet, insisted that it was more chance that Labour candidates such as Aidan Crowley and Norman MacKenzie were presenting programmes. As for Shirley and Peter, well they were on the screen because of "their outstanding qualities as representatives of the younger generation".

## Interest rates

Eagle Star, set to be taken over by the tobacco giant BAT, does not offer, unlike some other insurance companies, more favourable terms to non-smokers. "Each case is judged on its merits," says a spokesman for Eagle Star. "It might well be that a non-smoker is highly neurotic and thus in a bad state of health. Our policy is that if any smoker or non-smoker is in good health, they will pay smaller premiums."

## Festive choice

As is now customary, the BBC sent off a batch of videotapes for Christmas viewing at Chequers. Included were *The Two Ronnies* — the Prime Minister likes within the confines of the BBC format but not live at the Palladium, where she considers their jokes too blue — a programme about Sir Ralph Richardson, John Schlesinger's television film *An Englishman Abroad*, in which Alan Bates plays a drunken, vomiting Guy Burgess, and *Gandhi*. Sir Richard Attenborough's much-awarded film about the barely-clad man of peace.

BARRY FANTONI



ARMY RECRUITMENT

## Close season

Disinformation has struck already. Camden Arts Centre announced last month that "1984, An Exhibition" would open on January 1 and thereafter stay open from Monday to Saturday. Actually on "Today's events" in Monday's *Times* and sent a photographer along to the arts centre. He found it closed.

● Appropriately in 1984, Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *The Way to Freedom* is now displayed in Hatchards bookshop under "Travel".

## Mite and might

Counsellors at Cruse, the national organization for widows and their children, have received hostile telephone calls from members of the public who think they are promoting nuclear weapons rather than comfort for the bereaved. A cruse is a jar for cooking oil mentioned in the story about a widow in the Old Testament. It should not be confused with cruse any more than should a missile with a missile.

## Simply divan

The most romantic travel brochure for 1984 is Pullman Holidays' "Just for Two..." which offers everything a loving couple may require in the way of candle-lit dinners in Sorrento, a bottle of wine in your room in the Algarve and, if the brochure photographs are to be believed, very chaste-looking twin beds with hospital corners in Netanya, Israel.

## Moral issue

Just before the general election, Roman Catholic priests in Frank Field's Birkenhead constituency received a letter from SPUC, the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children, which said that in the last Parliament he had voted against every attempt to change the law to stop abortion on demand, even voting against measures to stop abortion beyond 24 weeks. After the election, Field wrote to SPUC saying the letter was untrue and damaging and asking for a list of all the priests to whom it had been sent. He has since written twice more, but so far has received only an acknowledgment. "SPUC runs a moral campaign," says Field, "but its behaviour over this issue leaves something to be desired."

PHS

## The key remand-cell reform

Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, explains how he kept his promise on prisoners in police custody

For some time prisoners in police custody have been in substantial numbers in police cells. The average number of such prisoners was 280, the record 626.

I have repeatedly said that the highly undesirable. Police cells built to hold such prisoners, causes hardship both to the prisoners and their visitors, especially lawyers. Police resources are tied down.

That is why I decided last July to practice should cease and set the police as a target for bringing it to an end. It was a demanding target, and many were highly sceptical. Robert Kilroy-Gibson, who was then Home Secretary, welcomed the objective but asked: "Keep it? ... Something more important, more radical is needed."

The answer is that I do not think it to interfere with the penal process. I Kilroy-Gibson implies I should, by such measures as early release, amnesty, to effect a measure of release. None the less, by last Friday, all prisoners were cleared of remand prisoners to prison custody by the courts.

How was this achieved? The problem arose in the first place in the prospects?

The problem arose mainly in the South-east where the number of unconvicted prisoners had increased in recent years. In the second half of 1983 there were over 300 more prisoners in the South-east than in the rest of the country. At the same time, key parts of prisons have been taken out for essential repairs and renovation.

Paul Routledge

views the election for NUM general secretary

## Who will share Scargill's mantle of power?

The miners go to the polls in two weeks to choose a new general secretary for their union, and the election is increasingly being seen as a test of popular support for the left-wing policies of Arthur Scargill as his national executive.

The January 20 vote will be secret ballot at the pithead, and traditionally high poll of around 15 per cent is expected. The ballot reaffirms the National Union of Mineworkers' long-standing commitment to the kind of democratic practices that the Government is now legislating for the rest of the labour movement.

Derbyshire miners' leader Peter Heathfield is the odds-on favourite. John Walsh, aged 46, area agent in North Yorkshire, is campaigning a ticket of "negotiation not confrontation". He studied at Lee University with Scargill and argues appeal towards a broad-based approach to work with him. Luscious and seeks to isolate Kelly, a pitman from Walsby, who eschews labels but wants "balance" at the top in the NUM's leadership. Kelly is the only working miner standing in the election. With aged 49, Kelly is the only working miner standing in the election. Kelly is the only working miner standing in the election.

Heathfield has long been the favourite choice for general secretary, a more than £15m in wages which carries responsibility for industrial relations issues. "I intended to force up the timing of the ballot has been deliberately engineered to ensure that he takes over from Lawrence is arguing that before the Dely, who is retiring early at the loss any money through of 59. The winner of the election will take office on March 1. The vote in a ballot. This view is next day is Heathfield's fifty-fifth birthday, and under union rules would not be ineligible to run.

This neat arrangement is unlikely to tell against him. Heathfield is a popular figure in the NUM, forceful, articulate and even humorous public speaker at conferences and coalfield galas. But he suffers from a protest vote against nationwide overtime ban, now in tenth week, and against the line, increasingly centralised by the president with whom he is closely associated.

Although the candidate of the left now has a wider power base, being nominated by 11 of the coalfields, including such modern strongholds as Nottinghamshire, Midlands, Leicestershire, Northumberland. He is, as Heathfield: left-wing but very much his own man.

## Where Gorbachev failed, Britain steps in

Britain is quietly emerging as prime architect and mover behind the United Nations peace initiative, was ready to return to the Gulf war, potentially the national fold after a long self-doubt of the world's conflict.

which is now in its fourth UN mission to investigate, at Behind the ultimate goal of the war is the short-term aim of filling the void that exists in Iran's more open policy. The relationship with the West is reported that Iran's suffering, presenting a counter-balance to France's special relationship towards meeting one of Iran's demands for an end to the war, and for an end to the war, and for an end to the war.

More than 20 missions to Iraq and Baghdad have been made since President Brezhnev to Yasser Arafat staunchly defended Iran in the recent peace talks.

None has made much headway, most recent Security Council resolutions hope that, negotiations on the war, which were the bounds of neutrality, if only its delivery of the promote Iran's interests. Super Estandard aircraft and nationally they will be in a position to extract concessions from Tehran. They have made a symposium Iranian threats to block the UN because diplomacy the Strait of Hormuz.

In essence the French believe that the UN's revolutionary government affirming the right of navigation, at least partly fulfilment through all waterways in the prospect of a deal for the language of the resolution while the British believe the certain to provoke Iran's Khomeini regime is becoming more and more interested in finding a moderate.

Sir John Thomson, British representative, was quick to advantage of signals from the UN diplomats called the incident of Iranian example of exploitation of the council; it pitted Britain and Iran in bitter confrontation in the

unprecedented prisoners from London. Also, some civil prisoners have been transferred from Pentonville to Ashford Remand Centre and some short-sentenced men sent to training prisons wherever space could satisfactorily be found.

Together with the seasonal drop in the prison population, these and other measures have enabled us to achieve our immediate objective of clearing police cells of prisoners committed to custody by the courts.

In doing this, the Prison Service has achieved an outstanding result at a time when the system had already been under strain. But the long-term task is not over. We must expect the prison population to rise, as it usually does, during the period up to Easter. The Prison Service is now engaged in the difficult and major effort of seeking to absorb these additional pressures.

We shall be gaining accommodation at Albany and Lewes prisons, and most importantly, the renovated A Wing at Scrubs. We are also considering further possibilities for better use of existing accommodation. The position will certainly be tricky for a few months to come. I cannot exclude the possibility of using police cells again if exceptional circumstances arise.

I am confident, however, that once the immediate period ahead of us is over, our more long-term policies will begin to have effect. Our prison-building programme, the reduction of the minimum qualifying period for parole, the other measures designed to divert some offenders from custody; all of these factors should ensure that the routine use of police cells for prison overflow remains a thing of the past.

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striking a sympathetic chord among some of the men.

The miners of today are very different from the downtrodden generation that staged the strikes of the early 1970s. To begin with, fewer than half of the existing labour force actually took part in those convulsive struggles, which are more remembered in the talk of retired colliers in the miners' clubs than in the pithead polling booths. Today's coal face worker is a £9,000-a-year man with many of the bourgeois trappings that go with that kind of money. There is a more mercenary outlook in the industry, and it is therefore remarkable that the NUM has been able to sustain an overtime ban for nearly three months at a cost of up to £40 a week per man in lost wages.

Other factors are also at work. Many thousands of older miners have expressed a desire to take voluntary redundancy, worth up to £42,000 spread over the years to retirement age. They too may react against the implacable policy of the left of "no pit closures, no manpower reductions".

Lingering memories of Scargill's attack on the Polish trade union Solidarity at the last Labour Party conference could deliver votes to the Walsh camp, which is already expecting to draw a strong Catholic vote.

With two moderates seeking to exploit discontent with Scargill policies, there is an obvious prospect

that the anti-left vote will be split — as it was in the presidential election two years ago — leaving Heathfield a clear run. The only serious question being asked in the union is whether he can match the 70 per cent electoral landslide recorded by Scargill when he won the presidency.

What would a Scargill-Heathfield leadership look like? One thing is certain: it would be less of the one-man band than the union has appeared to be in recent months. It is said that Heathfield did not challenge Scargill for the presidency on the understanding that he would become general secretary. He is his own man, and would not be content to live in the Scargill shadow.

The union rulebook confers equal status on the two full-time national officials. Strength of personality determines who is first among equals, though it is unlikely they would engage in a futile battle of wills. Furthermore, as more than one occupant of the post has pointed out, there are actually three national officials as well as the president and general secretary: there is a vice-president, a lay office currently belonging to Michael McGahey, communist leader of the Scottish miners.

The election of Heathfield would create a left-wing troika not matched elsewhere in the movement. It would also be interpreted by them as a vote of confidence in the NUM's current industrial and political strategy.

Soviet equipment; they will not buy American and the French have ruined their chances by their pro-Iraq stance. The British are privately hoping the orders will come their way.

The debate on whether Iran's peaceful solution to the war is real or tactical does not bother the British peace initiative at the UN. British diplomats there are said to believe that once Iran's government feels less isolated, its conciliatory messages may turn into practical measures.

The effort has received private encouragement from some Arab states which, while fearful of Iran's export of Shia fundamentalism, would not look forward, either, to an Iraqi victory which would allow Baghdad to dominate the region. Their fears may also be echoed by the superpowers, which would not want either of these independent-minded and unpredictable regimes to become the local heavyweight.

Neither the US nor the Soviet Union may have yet finally decided whether it is better to have them at peace or at war with each other.

If Britain's initiative against the war is to make headway it will have to encompass more interested parties than the bellicose spirits of Tehran.

Zoriana Pysariwsky and Richard Dowden

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

## Yes, managing director

The spectacle of horrid French milk being shipped back home will, I am sure, have given widespread satisfaction, and not only in the milking parlours of the West Country. For so much wrong with UHT milk; and if this French stuff is so awful that Mr Peter Walker's dogs turn up their noses at it (as he assured us was the case when he presided over Agriculture) then it is not immediately apparent why we should need the official analysts to protect us from consuming it. But the great thing is that we are paying off the French in their own coin for once.

Trust the French, we are regularly told, to permit Japanese videos to enter the country only through Poitiers, to the discomfiture of French importers, and to no tangible advantage to any French producers, since they don't make videos, but no matter; they know how to bend the rules, whereas we are the suckers who always play the game. Well, not as far as milk is concerned. Hurray!

One person who will not, apparently, be joining in the congratulations to Mr Michael Jopling, the Minister of Agriculture, is Mr Christopher Hogg of Court-tenders. If all the members of the cabinet had textile mills instead of farms, he reckons, "they would have a completely different set of priorities". Perhaps, but then that would not be allowed.

Many years ago, when the late Ernest Marples was Minister of Transport, I had to accompany a party of visiting French parliamentarians on their way from Heathrow to central London. We passed a hoarding announcing that the firm of Marples Ridgeway was undertaking improvements of a section of the motorway. The French were fascinated. "Even in France," they exclaimed, "we wouldn't allow that". I hastened to assure them that Mr Marples had had to dispose of his shares in the business which bore his name before he took up office. I am not sure that they believed me; and if I had added that had Mr Marples' interest been in a farm instead of a construction company, he could have kept it and taken any post on offer, including that of Agriculture, no doubt their scepticism would have been reinforced.

There are all sorts of plausible explanations for the special exception to the rules governing ministerial interests made in favour of farm ownership. But that it may occasionally encourage what Mr Hogg calls "complacency and comfort" towards the farming industry might be difficult to gainsay.

It is not, however, the only blurred area on the rules concerning potential conflicts of interest in Whitehall. As an aid to digestion over Christmas I have been re-reading the report which the Commons Treasury Committee produced three years ago about "Acceptance of outside appointments by Crown Servants". The committee drew attention to the fact that during the eight years to 1980

former civil servants had asked permission to take up more than 500 appointments in business and only nine had been turned down. It was also concerned that the special vetting committee which advises the Prime Minister about applications from the most senior public servants was made up of a former Labour cabinet minister, an accountant, a former Tory cabinet minister who happened to have spent long years as a civil servant, a field marshal and two former top mandarins.

The committee felt this was a bit too cosy. It quoted a comment by Nicholas Ridley, the present Minister of Transport, who had claimed at a session of an earlier select committee that he had once been given "biased advice" by a civil servant who had been "promised a job after retirement". It suggested that, among other things, it would be reassuring if parliamentary select committees could, on request, be told — in confidence — about the grounds which had led the vetting committee, or ministers, as the case might be, to approve or reject a particular application. It also suggested that the vetting committee should cease to contain "a preponderant number of those whose main careers have been in the public service"; and that there might be legal penalties for businesses which took on former public servants without the proper clearance.

Whitehall, it seems, was not amused. The late Lord Armstrong, grandest of all the mandarins of the 1970s vintage, had warned the readers of *The Sunday Times* that "if prime ministerial dictatorship could force a retiring civil servant not to take a particular job, no one would ever join the Civil Service again".

The then Minister of State for the Civil Service, in his evidence to the committee, did not go as far as that. He trotted out the familiar line about the contribution which those "with experience in public administration" could make to commerce; and he pointed out that if the worry was about ex-civil servants abusing confidential information, "as I think it must be", then that applied to former ministers as well.

But — as the committee clearly implied in its report — that is not the real worry at all. The real worry is the one that Nicholas Ridley put his finger on: that senior public servants may be encouraged to tip their hats to potential sugar daddies by the award of post-retirement favours to those who went before them. And to that there was, and remains, a deafening silence.

The committee did, it seems, receive a planned and nugatory reply of sorts to its report from the Government. But this was never published; and nothing more has happened. Now that the Treasury and Civil Service Committee has at long last been reconstituted it could do worse than pick up the dossier for a new — and perhaps a wider — look. *Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?* remains a pertinent question.

Paul Jennings

## No hand signals, writing a funny

There is something fundamentally touching, a rudimentary desire to reach out and communicate, about those legends you see on car windcreens, usually the names of couples such as Bert and Cheryl or, as saw the other day, Kevin and Vacant.

No doubt you can buy the stick-on letters at any accessories shop, and it is of purely personal significance that the only place where I have ever actually seen them displayed for sale was a garage near Trieste. It did seem more natural, in that land of smiling communicators, that Luigi and Dorabella, or Paolo and Francesca, should want everyone to know them at least by name.

As it happened, we were on our way from making a tremendous communication with the Mahler Second at Bolzano, in their splendid cathedral, to making no communication with it at all in Trieste in a strange open-air semi-castle.

The musical folk of Trieste are seldom, if ever, impressed. And Mahler, *al fresco*. In some place like a Tesco. Will certainly not pass the test.

Not even if our coach had said Ron and Elaine and Hannah and John and John and John and Kate and Fiona and Peter and Nella and Heidi and so on, round all the windows about three times.

Of course music is the communicative art, and it would be fun to escape from the loneliness of even the short-distance motorway with some such legend as Tristan and Isolde, or Daphnis and Chloe, or Acis and Galatea. (My friend the tenor Neil Jenkins swears that once when he was in a performance of this ravishing Handel work in America the posters said *Acis and Galathea*, and lots of blue-rimmed ladies turned up very indignant that there wasn't any tea, gala or otherwise.)

What does seem extraordinary is that in this age when there is so much sophisticated electronic and other gadgetry available, these letters are as far as we have got in spelling out any kind of message to other motorists.

As a matter of fact the windscreen would not be the best place for them. It is really at the rear or sides of the car that one would like to cause messages to appear in those rather beautiful, official-looking letters, whether by electronic or purely mechanical means, something analogous to that awful roller-blinding thing that comes down at the back of police cars that nip in front

of you after following you for three miles and says *Police Stop*.

I am not thinking of the merely angry messages that all motorists at some time wish to send to each other, such as *Look, it's a green arrow here, not a round red light, get on with it; or Come on you old fool stop wrestling with the gear; or Don't give a signal, you will; or All right cowboy, go on and kill yourself*. All these messages can be conveyed by simple facial expressions or appropriate gestures.

I am thinking of more complicated but necessary messages, messages that would explain situations, defuse crises — in short, communicate. For instance, I often want to get to Suffolk from Tottenham Court Road. This means turning right at the end of it into Euston Road, and before I get to the next lights I simply have to merge into the solid stream coming up from the underground way off (composed almost entirely of taxis) otherwise I shall be forced to turn left into wild, unknown Camden or Kentish Town territory. How I wish I could display the legend *Please let us, going to Suffolk*.

Knowing how impatient I get with people who can't drive at a constant speed, how I now wish I had been able to explain my own recent speedings and slowings by a sign at the back: *Sorry, damaged alternator, red light won't go out, something wrong there, battery not being charged, but can make it go out if take it by surprise, vary engine speed, declutch then rev up like lunatic like this; probably only brushes, but blighters won't sell just new brushes now, probably means whole new alternator*. This would be rather a long message, but in a crowded street the man behind me would have plenty of time to read it before finally being able to pass me.

Then there are things like *Sorry, stranger to area, where the hell is Portle Avenue, isn't it maddening the way they put street names facing the way you're just come from the way you're going?*

Or *Look, I'm not going to scrape your nearside wing, there are two lanes here, if we all did this the traffic would move twice as fast wouldn't it?* And (too often in my case) *Handbrake only works on last notch, if then, even though big service only month ago, I'm pretty sure at least-and-toe hill take-off but please forgive if I stall*.

Well, it would be more fun than Bert and Cheryl.















## Stillers cure for hangover

MARKET DAY: Dealings began, Dec. 20. Dealings end, Jan. 13. Contango Day, Jan. 18. Settlement Day, Jan. 23.

Investors returned to the holiday with a feeling yesterday that the market had been tumbled after the share prices drifted on support.

Jobbers complained they were merely going through the motions of trying to open the market because the displayed little willingness to open new positions.

Index closed 3.9 down after overnight positions fell of more than 2 cent pound's value. Leading trials were marked low exception was Distill.

higher at 251p, still bid hopes and cheap bid the institutions on yesterday's share prices.

Christmas Eve and now risen almost 20 off last month's dip, shortfalls in interim.

Americans now own cent of shares in ICI in one of the biggest of American deposits.

Trust, of New York, Express and Daily Star, holds 96.2 million shares, bulk registered in the subsidiary Guaranty.

However, estimates that the total of shares in America is higher at 63p.

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Already the Australian entrepreneur, Mr Robert Holmes a Court has bought more than 7 per cent of the shares and is thought to be looking to add to his stake.

News of the Prudential stake clipped 25p from the shares at 136p, but that compares with the 25p at which the shares were launched after the Trafalgar House demerger two years ago.

American Trust's holding in Edinburgh Securities, the oil and gas exploration production and investment group, has been reduced from 25 per cent to 22.84 per cent after the share capital's enlargement.

Edinburgh's other big shareholder, the Merchant Navy Officers' Pension Fund, has also had its stake diluted from 7.81 per cent to 7.16 per cent. This follows the acquisition of its associate.

Shantop, paid for by the issue of an extra \$85,000 shares. Edinburgh, quoted at 85p.

Shares of Regentrest, formerly Laganvale Estates, were unchanged at 20p after St James Corporate Services announced.

Hopes are high of a prosperous new year for Greenwick Resources, the Canadian gold mining group. Yesterday, the shares celebrated the first dealings of 1984 with a rise of 20p to 160p on talk of a big find in the Sudan.

Dealers are eagerly awaiting news and predict that the price could hit 250p soon.

It had added to its stake and now owned 9.5 per cent of the total. St James is a private company owned by the former Slater Walker high-flier Mr David Bulstrode.

The coup in Nigeria, an important oil producer, sent a shudder through oil shares.

Fears that the new government would flood the market clipped 8p from BP at 385p with the next instalment on the partly paid shares due next week.

Other fallers included Britoil, 4p to 196p, Burmah, 2p to 171p, Lesmo 3p to 288p and Ultramar 5p to 607p.

Shares of Burnett & Hallamshire erased an early 20p lead to close unchanged at 138p after denials by Kuwait-owned Hays Group that it was in talks about a £20m bid for its UK Petroleum subsidiary.

On the USM, Gibbs, Mew the Salisbury brewer, made a sparkling debut, opening at 250p compared with 200p. The shares ended the day at 240p.

Shares of Gesteira "A" were lifted 3p to 66p on renewed bid talk. The shares have long been tipped as a takeover target, but with the Gesteira family owning the bulk of the voting shares any approach would have to be agreed.

Last year's share of the year, Bellair Cosmetics, spurred 125p to £12.25, still reflecting the stake held by Wasskon Establishment, Harold Ingram, where Wasskon also holds a stake, rose 40p to 315p.

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Shantop, paid for by the issue of an extra \$85,000 shares. Edinburgh, quoted at 85p.

Shares of Regentrest, formerly Laganvale Estates, were unchanged at 20p after St James Corporate Services announced.

Hopes are high of a prosperous new year for Greenwick Resources, the Canadian gold mining group. Yesterday, the shares celebrated the first dealings of 1984 with a rise of 20p to 160p on talk of a big find in the Sudan.

Dealers are eagerly awaiting news and predict that the price could hit 250p soon.

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The coup in Nigeria, an important oil producer, sent a shudder through oil shares.

Fears that the new government would flood the market clipped 8p from BP at 385p with the next instalment on the partly paid shares due next week.

shades in issue. Fleet owns around 12 per cent of the shares in Reuters, which the capitalised at around £1,500m could be worth £180m to Fleet.

Already the Australian entrepreneur, Mr Robert Holmes a Court has bought more than 7 per cent of the shares and is thought to be looking to add to his stake.

News of the Prudential stake clipped 25p from the shares at 136p, but that compares with the 25p at which the shares were launched after the Trafalgar House demerger two years ago.

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Other fallers included Britoil, 4p to 196p, Burmah, 2p to 171p, Lesmo 3p to 288p and Ultramar 5p to 607p.

Shares of Burnett & Hallamshire erased an early 20p lead to close unchanged at 138p after denials by Kuwait-owned Hays Group that it was in talks about a £20m bid for its UK Petroleum subsidiary.

On the USM, Gibbs, Mew the Salisbury brewer, made a sparkling debut, opening at 250p compared with 200p. The shares ended the day at 240p.

Shares of Gesteira "A" were lifted 3p to 66p on renewed bid talk. The shares have long been tipped as a takeover target, but with the Gesteira family owning the bulk of the voting shares any approach would have to be agreed.

Last year's share of the year, Bellair Cosmetics, spurred 125p to £12.25, still reflecting the stake held by Wasskon Establishment, Harold Ingram, where Wasskon also holds a stake, rose 40p to 315p.

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1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
87	142	126	Murray's Farm	142	-	2.9	2.2
121	121	121	Do P	121	-	2.9	2.2
122	122	122	Murray's Farm	122	-	2.9	2.2
123	123	123	Do P	123	-	2.9	2.2
124	124	124	New Darnley	124	-	9.6	0.6
125	125	125	N Thames Inc	125	-	3.1	1.9
126	126	126	Do Cap	126	-	2.9	2.2
127	127	127	Do Cap	127	-	2.9	2.2
128	128	128	New York	128	-	2.9	2.2
129	129	129	Do Cap	129	-	2.9	2.2
130	130	130	Do Cap	130	-	2.9	2.2
131	131	131	Do Cap	131	-	2.9	2.2
132	132	132	Do Cap	132	-	2.9	2.2
133	133	133	Do Cap	133	-	2.9	2.2
134	134	134	Do Cap	134	-	2.9	2.2
135	135	135	Do Cap	135	-	2.9	2.2
136	136	136	Do Cap	136	-	2.9	2.2
137	137	137	Do Cap	137	-	2.9	2.2
138	138	138	Do Cap	138	-	2.9	2.2
139	139	139	Do Cap	139	-	2.9	2.2
140	140	140	Do Cap	140	-	2.9	2.2
141	141	141	Do Cap	141	-	2.9	2.2
142	142	142	Do Cap	142	-	2.9	2.2
143	143	143	Do Cap	143	-	2.9	2.2
144	144	144	Do Cap	144	-	2.9	2.2
145	145	145	Do Cap	145	-	2.9	2.2
146	146	146	Do Cap	146	-	2.9	2.2
147	147	147	Do Cap	147	-	2.9	2.2
148	148	148	Do Cap	148	-	2.9	2.2
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151	151	151	Do Cap	151	-	2.9	2.2
152	152	152	Do Cap	152	-	2.9	2.2
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154	154	154	Do Cap	154	-	2.9	2.2
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156	156	156	Do Cap	156	-	2.9	2.2
157	157	157	Do Cap	157	-	2.9	2.2
158	158	158	Do Cap	158	-	2.9	2.2
159	159	159	Do Cap	159	-	2.9	2.2
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162	162	162	Do Cap	162	-	2.9	2.2
163	163	163	Do Cap	163	-	2.9	2.2
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165	165	165	Do Cap	165	-	2.9	2.2
166	166	166	Do Cap	166	-	2.9	2.2
167	167	167	Do Cap	167	-	2.9	2.2
168	168	168	Do Cap	168	-	2.9	2.2
169	169	169	Do Cap	169	-	2.9	2.2
170	170	170	Do Cap	170	-	2.9	2.2
171	171	171	Do Cap	171	-	2.9	2.2
172	172	172	Do Cap	172	-	2.9	2.2
173	173	173	Do Cap	173	-	2.9	2.2
174	174	174	Do Cap	174	-	2.9	2.2
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263	263	263	Do Cap	263	-	2.9	2.2
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266	266	266	Do Cap	266	-	2.9	2.2
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273	273	273	Do Cap	273	-	2.9	2.2
274	274	274	Do Cap	274	-	2.9	2.2
275	275	275	Do Cap	275	-	2.9	2.2
276	276	276	Do Cap	276	-	2.9	2.2
277	277	277	Do Cap	277	-	2.9	2.2
278	278	278	Do Cap	278	-	2.9	2.2
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310	310	310	Do Cap	310	-	2.9	2.2
311	311	311	Do Cap	311	-	2.9	2.2
312	312	312	Do Cap				

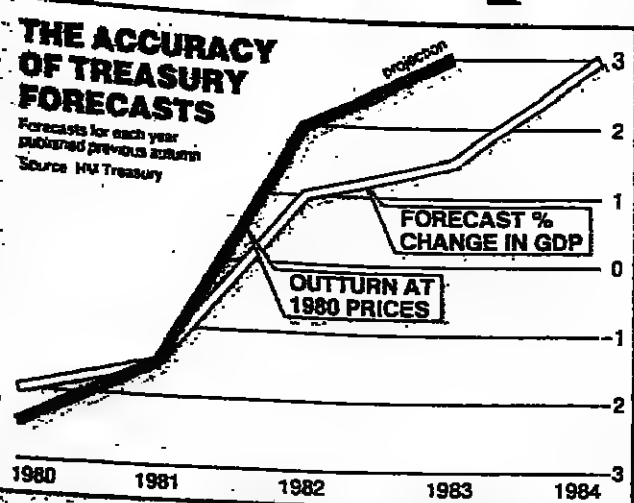






## Economic Commentary by Tim Congdon

## Fires for a prosperous new year



There is a worrying prospect that Treasury forecasts for the new year will be very far from the mark. It is not only the Treasury's forecasts that are in question, but also the performance of the economy as a whole.

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Exporting Countries cartel will break up. The oil price could fall sharply, cutting tax revenues on North Sea profits and jeopardizing the Government's targets for the public sector borrowing requirement. It would be uncomfortable, although not unjust, if Mrs Thatcher's second term is characterized by constant anxiety about a weak oil price. The Government's supporters have indulged in some trumpeting about the low budget deficit in this country.

In the next target period, running to April 1985, the maximum permitted annual rate of increase will be 10 per cent. But indications of an acceleration of monetary growth have emerged. Although corporate loan demand has been weak for about 18 months, bank lending to the personal sector and mortgage credit have been and remain buoyant. Leading building societies suggest that new mortgage advances will be 20 per cent higher in 1984 than in 1983.

## APPOINTMENTS

## Wimpey names chairman

George Wimpey: Mr Clifford Chetwood assumes the chairmanship after Sir Reginald Smith's retirement. He retains his position as chief executive.

Cathay Pacific Airways: Mr Michael Miles has been appointed chairman and also chairman of the Swire Group in Hongkong from April 1. He will succeed Mr Duncan Black, who becomes executive director at John Swire & Sons in London. Mr Miles will be succeeded as managing director of Cathay Pacific by Mr Peter Stuch, now deputy managing director.

Gramercy International Services: Mr John Owen has taken over the new position of Middle East divisional director. His former position as managing director of Algosair International Services, the GIS operation in Saudi Arabia, has been taken over by Mr Bob Pawsey, previously managing director of John Laing International.

Matheson & Co: Mr D. E. Corben and Mr D. C. Knecht have joined the board.

Standard Chartered Bank: Mr S. G. Smallwood, whose duties cover group marketing strategy and regional responsibility for North America, has become general manager and his regional responsibilities will be extended to include liaison with Standard Bank of South Africa.

Lloyd's Underwriting Agents' Association: The committee for 1984 will be Messrs P. T. Daniels (chairman); D. G. L. Mott (deputy chairman); D. C. Craig; R. M. H. Gilkes; N. C. Haydon; J. M. G. Heynes; R. R. S. Hiscox; C. R. Hunter; A. P. Leslie; A. C. Mitchell; J. R. Robson and G. J. White.

Bradford & Bingley Building Society: Mr W. M. Pybus, formerly of the South East regional board, has been appointed to the main board.

The Scotsman Publications: Mr Eric Mackay and Mr Roger Nicholson have joined the board.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland: Mr Eric Tait has become secretary, succeeding Mr Gordon Stewart, who remains as legal adviser. Higgins and Cattle: Mr W. T. Sullivan has become chief executive and Mr C. Narmann sales and marketing manager. C & S Antennas: Mr John Quinton has joined as managing director.

## COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

**AIM GROUP:** Six months to October 31, 1983. Interim dividend 1.0p (same). Figures in £000. Turnover 6,236 (5,598). Profit before tax 488 (loss 198). Results for the past six months are in line with expectations. As the pattern of deliveries is more evenly spread this year a similar performance is anticipated for the second half.

**H J BALDWIN:** Half year to October 31, 1983. No interim dividend (same). Turnover £1.31m (£1.098m). Pretax profit £52.948 (£11,470). Tax £18,411 (nil). Leaving £34,537 (£11,470).

## COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES			
Commodity	Unit	Price	Change
Coffee, arabica, 100 lbs	per ton	184.47	+
Coffee, robusta, 100 lbs	per ton	155.27	+
Oil, 100 lbs	per ton	176.45	+
Sugar, 100 lbs	per ton	171.0	+
Cocoa, 100 lbs	per ton	206.34	+
Wheat, 100 lbs	per ton	191.20	+
Barley, 100 lbs	per ton	121.12	+
Oats, 100 lbs	per ton	108.76	+
Maize, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Soya beans, 100 lbs	per ton	191.20	+
Groundnuts, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Almonds, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Peanut oil, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Vegetable oil, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Animal fat, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Wool, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Gold, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Silver, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Palladium, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Platinum, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Iron ore, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Coal, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Gas, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Electricity, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Water, 100 lbs	per ton	119.20	+
Other commodities			

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE			
Metal	Unit	Price	Change
Copper, 100 lbs	per ton	100.00	+
Aluminum, 100 lbs	per ton	100.00	+
Lead, 100 lbs	per ton	100.00	+
Zinc, 100 lbs	per ton	100.00	+
Nickel, 100 lbs	per ton	100.00	+
Steel, 100 lbs	per ton	100.00	+
Other metals			

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET			
Month	Price	Change	Volume
Jan 84	379.00	+	100
Feb 84	379.00	+	100
Mar 84	379.00	+	100
Apr 84	379.00	+	100
May 84	379.00	+	100
Jun 84	379.00	+	100
Jul 84	379.00	+	100
Aug 84	379.00	+	100
Sep 84	379.00	+	100
Oct 84	379.00	+	100
Nov 84	379.00	+	100
Dec 84	379.00	+	100
Jan 85	379.00	+	100
Feb 85	379.00	+	100
Mar 85	379.00	+	100
Apr 85	379.00	+	100
May 85	379.00	+	100
Jun 85	379.00	+	100
Jul 85	379.00	+	100
Aug 85	379.00	+	100
Sep 85	379.00	+	100
Oct 85	379.00	+	100
Nov 85	379.00	+	100
Dec 85	379.00	+	100
Jan 86	379.00	+	100
Feb 86	379.00	+	100
Mar 86	379.00	+	100
Apr 86	379.00	+	100
May 86	379.00	+	100
Jun 86	379.00	+	100
Jul 86	379.00	+	100
Aug 86	379.00	+	100
Sep 86	379.00	+	100
Oct 86	379.00	+	100
Nov 86	379.00	+	100
Dec 86	379.00	+	100
Jan 87	379.00	+	100
Feb 87	379.00	+	100
Mar 87	379.00	+	100
Apr 87	379.00	+	100
May 87	379.00	+	100
Jun 87	379.00	+	100
Jul 87	379.00	+	100
Aug 87	379.00	+	100
Sep 87	379.00	+	100
Oct 87	379.00	+	100
Nov 87	379.00	+	100
Dec 87	379.00	+	100
Jan 88	379.00	+	100
Feb 88	379.00	+	100
Mar 88	379.00	+	100
Apr 88	379.00	+	100
May 88	379.00	+	100
Jun 88	379.00	+	100
Jul 88	379.00	+	100
Aug 88	379.00	+	100
Sep 88	379.00	+	100
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# Mossmorran syndicate celebrate again

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The supremely sporting side of National Hunt racing was typified by Cheltenham yesterday when the Mossmorran syndicate celebrated its 20th anniversary by winning the National Hunt Hurdle. The horse is owned by a syndicate of six from County Durham, comprising three milkmen, two publicans and one fruiterer and they were all there in force yesterday to cheer on their prize and, having worked for most of the night in order to get their duties done in time to catch the earliest possible train to the races. What is more they put their money where their mouth was for the second time in a week. They did even better in the ring at Wetherby, the previous Tuesday, when they were returned prices between 100-30 and 9-2 to their money. With that ammunition to play with they went to war again in this time they only got prices ranging between 11-8 against and 6-5 on. Not that that worried them one iota. Just to be there in the middle of Cheltenham's hallowed winners' circle was the experience of a lifetime according to the syndicate leader, Derek Robinson.

With that stylish rider Graham Bradley sitting as quiet as a mouse throughout yesterday's race they never have had a moment's anxiety. As a result they are already looking forward to making the return journey to Cheltenham in March for the Waterford Crystal Stayers Hurdle. And there would be more popular result than if Mossmorran were to win again.

The betting before the Food Brokers' Alma Confectionery Novices' Steeplechase suggested another Northern victory but it was not to be because a Kinsman hit the top of the second last fence while alongside the eventual winner, Two Coppers, and paid the full penalty for his carelessness. Whether he should have won but for that misadventure is a moot point because Two Coppers was certainly going every bit as well.



Unavailing effort: Richard Linley and Brass Change toil in eight lengths Mossmorran at weather-beaten Cheltenham yesterday (Photograph: Chris...)

finish, on a tired horse, he was able to get the better of Franchise.

And so to today's programmes. The one at Towcester hinges on a stewards' inspection at 7.30 this morning as snow was lying on the course yesterday. If the meeting gets the go-ahead the Well To Do Challenge Cup should be won by Vendeur who is on a winning crest.

At Ayr Visconti will have his warm-up race for the final of the Embassy Premier Steeplechase series, staged at Ascot later this month, in the Kincaidstone Novices Steeplechase. With his customary attention to detail his trainer Michael Dickinson has deliberately chosen what

should be an easy one for Visconti can regain the confidence following the wracking experience November when he was in the race won by Tzarevich. Before that had won very easily against Bangor and disappointing if he regains his touch this at

## Towcester

GOING: good to soft (7.30 inspection).

1.0 LONGWATER HURDLE (Div II; novices; 2548; 2m 5f 20yd) (18 runners)

1	30P12P	BALLYGOV (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	P. Scudamore
2	30P12P	CHOICE OF CHIEFS (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
3	30P12P	EARLY NIGHT (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
4	30P12P	REACHING LAD (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
5	30P12P	CROWLAND BRIG (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
6	30P12P	LEWIS (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
7	30P12P	MORGAN'S GOLD (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
8	30P12P	QUEENSWAY BOY (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
9	30P12P	WOODLAND CREST (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
10	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
11	30P12P	STAYING (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
12	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
13	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
14	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
15	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
16	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
17	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
18	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan

1.30 WATERHALL CHASE (Novices; £1,011; 2m 50yd) (13 runners)

1	30P12P	BRAVE HUSSAR (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	P. Scudamore
2	30P12P	MIGHTY IMPRESSIVE (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
3	30P12P	ACHILLE (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
4	30P12P	EL CUBANO (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
5	30P12P	KING THUNDER (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
6	30P12P	MACCARTHY (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
7	30P12P	NOT TAILOR (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
8	30P12P	LOOKING FOR GOLD (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
9	30P12P	NOT JUST (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
10	30P12P	PRINCESS HANNAH (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
11	30P12P	11-10 Brave Hussar, 4 Tom Teller, 11-2 Double Post, 8 Macdonald, 12 others.	

2.0 LONGWATER HURDLE (Div II; novices; 2548; 2m 5f 20yd) (18 runners)

1	30P12P	CAVALRYMAN (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	P. Scudamore
2	30P12P	GANDGOUZE LANE (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
3	30P12P	KEN DAVENPORT (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
4	30P12P	MUSSEL BED (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
5	30P12P	MY BRAVE (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
6	30P12P	RAIDERS AIR (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
7	30P12P	REBEL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
8	30P12P	STRAEMER (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
9	30P12P	CHARLIE KILGOUR (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
10	30P12P	EVERGREEN (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
11	30P12P	KILTRA BOY (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
12	30P12P	PLANET (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
13	30P12P	SCOTT'S PRIDE (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
14	30P12P	OLEVER MILLY (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
15	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
16	30P12P	PULL OF LOVE (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
17	30P12P	11-10 Brave Hussar, 4 Tom Teller, 11-2 Double Post, 11-2 Rouspater, 12 Regan, 14 others.	

2.30 'WELL TO DO' CHASE (handicap; £1,942; 3m 100yd) (13 runners)

1	30P12P	VENDEUR (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	P. Scudamore
2	30P12P	RUBEN (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
3	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
4	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
5	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
6	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
7	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
8	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
9	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
10	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
11	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
12	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
13	30P12P	WYTH'S GIRL (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan

3.0 DEER PARK CHASE (handicap; conditional jockeys; £1,077; 2m 5f 100yd) (8 runners)

1	30P12P	CHANCE IT (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	P. Scudamore
2	30P12P	TARZAN (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan
3	30P12P	IVORY CREST (R) (C) (D) (H) 11-4	M. J. Duggan

## Towcester selections

My Michael Phillips

1.0 Ballygo, 1.30 Brave Hussar, 2.0 Gandgouze Lane, 2.30 Vendeur, 3.0 Ivory Crest, 3.30 Ridgefield.

## French mount a grand challenge for National

Roger Grand, a leading French amateur jockey and trainer, has brought his prize-winning horse, Jivago, to England to be prepared for the Grand National. The horse, owned by the French National Stud, is a 10-year-old bay gelding who has won several races in France, including the Prix de la Forêt de St. Germain in 1982. Grand, who is a well-known figure in the French racing world, is hoping that Jivago will be able to compete at the highest level in England. The Grand National is one of the most prestigious horse races in the world, and it is a great challenge for any horse and jockey to take on. Grand is confident that Jivago has the ability to win, and he is determined to give him every chance of success. The race will be held on Saturday, April 14, at Sandown Park, and it is expected to attract a large crowd of spectators. Grand is looking forward to the challenge, and he is sure that Jivago will be able to meet it.

## Cheltenham results

12.0 WOODMANCOTE HURDLE (Novices; £1,280; 2m 4f)	TOT: Wm 23.70, Places: £11.11, £5.55, £2.77, £1.39, £0.69, £0.35, £0.18, £0.09, £0.04, £0.02, £0.01, £0.005, £0.002, £0.001, £0.0005, £0.0002, £0.0001, £0.00005, £0.00002, £0.00001, £0.000005, £0.000002, £0.000001, £0.0000005, £0.0000002, £0.0000001, £0.00000005, £0.00000002, £0.00000001, £0.000000005, £0.000000002, £0.000000001, £0.0000000005, £0.0000000002, £0.0000000001, £0.00000000005, £0.00000000002, £0.00000000001, £0.000000000005, £0.000000000002, £0.000000000001, £0.0000000000005, £0.0000000000002, £0.0000000000001, £0.00000000000005, £0.00000000000002, £0.00000000000001, £0.000000000000005, £0.000000000000002, £0.000000000000001, £0.0000000000000005, £0.0000000000000002, £0.0000000000000001, £0.00000000000000005, £0.00000000000000002, £0.00000000000000001, £0.000000000000000005, £0.000000000000000002, £0.000000000000000001, £0.0000000000000000005, £0.0000000000000000002, £0.0000000000000000001, £0.00000000000000000005, £0.00000000000000000002, £0.00000000000000000001, £0.000000000000000000005, £0.000000000000000000002, £0.000000000000000000001, £0.0000000000000000000005, £0.0000000000000000000002, £0.0000000000000000000001, £0.00000000000000000000005, £0.00000000000000000000002, £0.00000000000000000000001, £0.000000000000000000000005, £0.000000000000000000000002, £0.000000000000000000000001, £0.0000000000000000000000005, £0.0000000000000000000000002, £0.0000000000000000000000001, £0.00000000000000000000000005, £0.00000000000000000000000002, £0.00000000000000000000000001, £0.000000000000000000000000005, £0.000000000000000000000000002, £0.000000000000000000000000001, £0.0000000000000000000000000005, £0.0000000000000000000000000002, £0.0000000000000000000000000001, £0.00000000000000000000000000005, £0.00000000000000000000000000002, £0.00000000000000000000000000001, £0.000000000000000000000000000005, £0.000000000000000000000000000002, £0.000000000000000000000000000001, £0.0000000000000000000000000000005, £0.0000000000000000000000000000002, £0.0000000000000000000000000000001, £0.00000000000000000000000000000005, £0.00000000000000000000000000000002, £0.00000000000000000000000000000001, £0.000000000000000000000000000000005, £0.000000000000000000000000000000002, £0.000000000000000000000000000000001, £0.0000000000000000000000000000000005, £0.0000000000000000000000000000000002, £0.0000000000000000000000000000000001, £0.00000000000000000000000000000000005, £0.00000000000000000000000000000000002, £0.00000000000000000000000000000000001, £0.000000000000000000000000000000000005, £0.000000000000000000000000000000000002, £0.000000000000000000000000000000000001, £0.0000000000000000000000000000000000005, £0.0000000000000000000000000000000000002, £0.0000000000000000000000000000000000001, £0.00000000000000000000000000000000000005, £0.00000000000000000000000000000000000002, £0.00000000000000000000000000000000000001, £0.000000000000000000000000000000000000005, £0.000000000000000000000000000000000000002, £0.000000000000000000000000000000000000001, £0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000005, £0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000002, £0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000001, £0.005, £0.002, £0.001, £0.0005, £0.0002, £0.0001, £0.005, £0.002, £0.001, £0.0005, £0.0002, £0.0001, £0.005, £0.002, £0.001, £0.0005, £0.0002, £0.0001, £0.005, £0.002, £0.001, £0.0005, £0.0002, £0.0001, £0.005, £0.002, £0.001, £0.0005, £0.0002, £0.0001, £0.005, £0.002, £0.001, £0.0005, £0.0002, £0.0001, £0.005, £0.002, £0.001, £0.0005, £0.0002, £0.0001, £0.005, £0.002, £0.001, £0.0005, £0.0002, £0.0001, £0.005, £0.002, £0.001, £0.0005, £0.0002, £0.001, £0.0005, £0.0002, £0.001, £0.005, £0.002, £0.0001, £0.0005, £0.0002, £0
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This leading Manufacturing Company is seeking a top PA to function at the highest level. Capable of carrying out your own initiative, you will become involved in a wide range of international business and carry out all correspondence and travel functions. You will need fast, accurate typing. Some experience would also be an asset.

**PUBLISHING**  
**TO \$7,500**

An unusual opportunity to move beyond a secretarial function is offered by this leading periodical publishing company. As a Publishing Secretary, you will have access

**SECRETARY**

For an interesting long term opportunity for a qualified self-reliant person assisting the Principal, you will spend considerable time travelling - to establish and run a London office of a thriving Saudi Arabian Import/Export Company. Qualifications and Experience: Secretarial skills and preferably a Degree, plus 5 to 10 years experience, as a significant role in the devel-

responsibility and work on your own initiative. This position offers scope to drive a multi-million turnover. Although there is a low incremental cost within this position, you will need skills of MRP/PPM.

**SYNERGY**  
The recruitment consultancy  
**01-637 9533**

**BANKING  
MARKETING**  
20+  
Bright and active PA/Sec to assist in

**La Crème**  
SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT  
CONSULTANTS

**TRUST AND**

**PROBATION  
TO \$8,000**

A fast growing secretary is needed to assist a Senior Partner within the major legal practice. This is a proper position for any experienced and efficient legal secretary who can handle all the needs of a busy and varied role.

Please contact Margaret Oulston.

**01-836 4086**

**PERSONNEL OFFICER**

**PA TO MD**  
The newly appointed Managing Director of a leading law firm will work with equal status throughout the UK in looking for a top talent P.A. The candidate must have extensive experience, initiative, be able to work under pressure and have a good educational background. **Spec 100/50, Age 27-38.**  
**Telex: 01-493 0092; 493 5907**

Recruitment Consultants

**Directors' Secretaries**  
Tel. 01.629.9323

certainly be well rewarded.  
Please contact **Flavia**  
President.

**01-836 4086**

**SENIOR APPOINTMENT PROPERTY**  
**PA/SECRETARY SW1**

A senior appointment is to be made as PA/Secretary to the Secretary of a leading professional body. Opportunity available to make a major contribution as member of a successful team. Good salary.

**ADMINISTRATIVE EXECUTIVE**

Experienced PA 25+ required with administrative experience and initiative when working alone. Telex Italian an advantage. Top salary negotiable.

writing to the Secretary,  
Incorporated Society of Valuers  
and Auctioneers, 17 Old  
Gate, London, SW1, not later  
than Wednesday, 11 January.

**SENIOR SEC/PA**  
25-30. Well groomed for Int.  
Lawyer, in Mayfair. Speeds  
100+. Legal experience not  
required. Varied second  
management duties.  
**£8,500+.**  
**Call 629 0669.**  
**(no Agencies)**

**£7,000 - £9,000**  
Detailed and impartial re-  
ports on many Sec/PA  
vacancies, City and West-  
End, posted overnight if you  
call:-  
**PSL (Rec Cons)**  
**486 2667 or 485 7877**

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

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# La crème de la

## SECRETARIES

Make Victoria the next step in your career

Humphreys and Glasgow are leading international engineering contractors. We are looking for a busy and successful 1984 and are looking for experienced secretaries, ideally aged 23-30, to join our friendly, professional team.

Secretaries - with a smart appearance and good telephone manner - are currently needed in the following departments:

**SENIOR SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR**  
You should be well educated with an ability for figurework and first class shorthand/typing.

**PROJECT MANAGEMENT**  
Two positions, each requiring good shorthand.

**INSURANCE**  
Shorthand essential; audio would be useful.

**DESIGN GROUPS**  
Must have a good knowledge of word processing - ideally experienced on Philips 5002.

**OFFSHORE ENGINEERING**  
New position needing very good shorthand. Some overtime involved.

Located right next to Victoria Station, and close to excellent shops, we offer very attractive conditions and benefits to the right people. In addition to competitive salaries, benefits include: 22 days holiday, flexible, interest-free travel loans (after 6 months), bonus and profit-sharing scheme.

Send career details to:  
Mrs Audrey Kettle, Personnel Department,  
Chestergate House, 255 Vauxhall Bridge Road,  
Victoria, SW1V 1BD.

## Partner's Secretary

**Chartered Accountants**  
**City Based**

We are looking for an alert and experienced secretary who will use initiative in the application of basic shorthand secretarial skills to support a Partner in his professional work.

The person appointed will need to take responsibility for a wide range of organisational and administrative duties and be able to communicate well at all levels.

A very competitive salary will be offered depending on age and experience.

Please telephone in the first instance or write enclosing brief career details to

Arthur Young McClelland Moores & Co.,  
Rolle House, 7 Rolle Buildings, Fetter Lane,  
London EC4A 1NH. Tel: 01-631 7130.

Arthur Young McClelland Moores & Co.

A MEMBER OF ANSA IN EUROPE AND ARTHUR YOUNG INTERNATIONAL

## OIL COMPANY SECRETARY

£8,000 - £10,500

Amerada Hess (U.K.) Limited, the U.K. subsidiary of Amerada Hess Corporation, the world's 18th largest oil company, is seeking to appoint a secretary to the Purchasing Manager.

This is an interesting opportunity for a senior secretary to help establish the Purchasing Department from scratch, providing full back-up to the Manager.

The successful applicant should be aged 25-35, possess excellent shorthand and typing skills and have the flexibility to become an integral part of the team. Proven organisational skills and an enthusiastic attitude to what will be a heavy workload are essential, together with plenty of initiative.

Candidates should have at least five years' experience working at a senior level, preferably within the oil industry. Knowledge of Wang word processors is desirable. Applications, giving full relevant details, should be addressed to:

P.W. Brown, Personnel Manager,  
Amerada Hess (U.K.) Limited,  
2 Stephen Street,  
Tottenham Court Road,  
LONDON W1P 1PL.

Discover a great career with

AMERADA HESS

## ADVERTISING

£9,000

A major international advertising agency needs a PA for one of their board directors. He is responsible for new business development, so you will be co-ordinating the presentation of client companies and organising the head office and entertainment schedule, as well as providing secretarial back-up.

A get-up-and-go mentality is essential, with a positive and sparkling personality. Educated to A Level standard, you are a beautiful turned out and used to working under pressure.

Age 23-30  
Speed 100/50

Angela Mortimer Ltd  
Executive Recruiters  
166 Piccadilly  
W1P 8BB

PERSONNEL

Junior Management role for someone aged 20-25 with at least 2 years' experience. Interviewing skills a must along with accuracy and fast typing. Call 01-493 6031.

BILINGUAL HAMMERSMITH

French French with English mother-tongue. - JOURNALIST writing as the Director of successful French Co. c. £7,000, free parking, early 20's. Call 408 1631.

ADVERTISING ADMIN

c. £7,500 W2  
Young legal Personnel & Admin Director needs right-hand in 100/50 in 20's. Call 408 1631.

MIDDLETON JEFFERS

SECRETARY

For Chief Executive and Town Clerk

£7,788 - £8,493  
Plus Pension

A "Top" Secretary is required for the Chief Executive and Town Clerk of this large and busy London Borough of Enfield.

This is a responsible position calling for an experienced Secretary with a good education, excellent shorthand/typing skills, the ability to be initiative and a pleasant personality with the ability to cope with people at all levels. Local Government experience would be an advantage. Informal enquiries to Mr A. McLean, 01-365 9453.

An application form is available from the Chief Executive and Town Clerk, P.O. Box 30, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield, EN1 3XL. Closing date 21.1.84. Please quote reference BL/CA.

La Crème

SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT, CONSULTANTS

ADVERTISING

c. £8,000

This is generally one of the best opportunities for a young shorthand secretary that we have seen, but it does ask for the kind of dedication and commitment few are prepared, or able, to give. "Workaholic" does describe this Senior Executive and the Secretary will be the minded. Please contact Rosalee C. Cook, 01-336 4086.

JCR

JANE CROTHAMITE RECRUITMENT LTD

TEMP INTO PERM

1984

Last year several of our temporary secretaries did just that. They shared the excitement, then found out what the people they'd be working with were really like as a couple of hurriedly matched interviews and decided they'd stay permanently. Obviously not all categories, but it is a good way to test the market and find out your own worth. For further details, please call Rosalee C. Cook or Kate C. Cook.

21 Beachcroft Place SW3

Tel: 01-581 2977

LARGE INTERNATIONAL CITY BANK

Secure young shorthand sec. 22-25 yrs. with Japanese shorthand division. A basic knowledge of Japanese business methods and the others would be necessary. Speeds 100/50. Salary £8,000 per year with excellent benefits, including profit share, bonus, interest-free travel loans, etc. For more details, please call Rosalee C. Cook or Kate C. Cook.

## ELECTRONIC MAIL AND WORD PROCESSING CO-ORDINATION- Wang based

£9,000

A vacancy for a rather person - to work in a small developing Wang based processing and Electronic data organisation. Your role will be to co-ordinate many activities concerned with the introduction of new equipment to our network of offices - and to be directly involved in many of them. Activities will include training, glossary

co-ordination and operation of the electronic mail system, together with some secretarial responsibilities. To join us, you will need a tactful and friendly manner with good people skills and organising ability, and ideally a knowledge of Wang systems and their operation. The appointed candidate is likely to be over 30 years of age, but we are prepared to be persuaded otherwise.

To find out more about the vacancy, please call Penny Noble on 01-235 6060.

## Are you young, bubbly and a first-class Secretary? Then the Tupperware Company has just the vacancy for you!

This is a key position within the company where there are splendid career prospects for someone in their early-mid twenties who is presentable, cheerful and looking for a demanding position.

The excellent salary and benefits will reflect the nature of the appointment.

The person appointed must be able to work on their own initiative, be capable of dealing with people at all levels and prepared to do some travelling within the UK. Good secretarial skills and pleasant telephone manner are essential. We are based in Harrow and all applications should be made in writing, enclosing CV to:

Ian Laurie, Personnel Director,  
The Tupperware Company,  
Tupperware House, 130 College Road,  
Harrow, HA1 1BQ.

All applications will be treated in complete confidence.

## Resilient? Seeking Challenge?

.....then there may be an interesting opportunity for you in the Secretariat of an international bank in the City.

Good shorthand/audio typing speeds, secretarial experience at personal/confidential levels, smart appearance and late 20's/early 30's vintage are the basics, but a cheerful, flexible attitude is needed as you will be working for several people. Duties will vary from minor administration matters to Chairman's travel and work will come via the secretary to the Senior Manager.

Salary will be in the £7,000-£8,000 range, other benefits including low-interest house loan and incentive scheme.

Please write giving details of age, education, experience and present salary to Mr. E. Cotter.

GSP

Golley Slater and Partners Limited

42 Drury Lane, London WC2B 8RN.

## Secretary in Personnel

c.£8,500 plus preferential mortgage facilities

A prestigious international bank in the City is looking for an intelligent well-organised secretary to support the Head of Personnel who is responsible for the efficient operation of the personnel function within a sophisticated and demanding environment.

Candidates should be aged 25-30 years old, possess good secretarial skills and should be charismatic, diplomatic and above all, dynamic! Previous personnel experience would be helpful but less important than the correct personal skills.

Please write, enclosing a curriculum vitae to:  
Box No 1844, c/o Exel Advertising,  
4 Bouverie Street, London EC4V 8AB.

## SECRETARIES - make a great start to 1984!

Fast, demanding and rewarding, that sums up these two new jobs in an expanding recruiting consultancy in Kensington.

**SECRETARY:** With client contact, arranging interviews, organising meetings and many other tasks, you'll never be bored! You'll need a good general education, impeccable fast audio typing, legs of steel - and a sense of humour. Ref: SEC.

**JUNIOR SECRETARY:** An excellent "stepping stone" for a fast copy typist. The wide range of general office duties, plus involvement with candidate applications, references etc. will appeal to someone who can learn quickly. At least 2 years' experience and a good telephone manner are the other main requirements. Ref: JS.

For both positions experience on a word processor would be a definite advantage. We offer attractive negotiable salaries, according to experience, plus good holiday entitlements.

If you are interested in finding out more please write sending a typed CV with a handwritten covering letter, quoting the appropriate reference number to: Miss B. A. Varden, Webb Whitley Associates Limited, International Recruitment Consultants, 45 Kensington High Street, London W8 5EX.

Webb Whitley Associates Limited

## SALES NEGOTIATORS

Established & expanding firm of Estates Agents & Chartered Surveyors require Sales Negotiators for their offices in West & South West London.

Previous experience not essential but a minimum of 3 years working experience required, preferably in Sales.

Age 25-35.  
Car driver.

Please forward CV to Box 2204 H The Times.

## SENIOR SECRETARY

Required for friendly firm of chartered surveyors based in Westminster. Applicants should have good shorthand/audio and excellent typing. Some knowledge of word processing would be an advantage.

Good salary and annual bonus. For further information please contact Mrs Nelson on 01 222 6661 (No Agencies Please)

## WANTED . . . . Third girl to share . . . .

Our Wang (System 30) word processing department . . . .

This is a very busy position and you should therefore be a FULLY TRAINED OPERATOR, competent to deal with bulky text and some figure typing.

In addition you should have the dedication to take work from handwritten stage through first and second drafts to final report stage.

Ideally you will be in your twenties, have plenty of initiative and a bright, lively personality.

We know we are asking a lot but you will be well rewarded for your efforts. LV's, season ticket loan and other benefits apply.

Please write enclosing your c.v., or telephone me for further details:

Yvette Enright

Chem Systems International  
28, St James's Square, London SW1  
Telephone: 01-839 4652  
(nearest tube, Piccadilly and Green Park Stations)

## Secretary - Stockbroking

We are a leading international financial organisation seeking an experienced secretary for one of our senior brokers. In addition to sales duties (minimum shorthand speed 100 wpm) there is client contact, and therefore applicants must have a confident manner, as well as the ability to find out how the business operates. This will enable the broker and his secretary to work as a team in handling clients' etc. We would expect applicants to be educated to O level standard (ideally A level), and a liking for figures would be helpful.

If you are looking for more involvement than you feel you are getting in your present position, we would be interested in hearing from you.

Salary: c. £7,000 but negotiable depending on age and experience. Benefits include interest-free season ticket loan, pension, life assurance and medical scheme and mortgage subsidy.

CV's (with contact telephone number where possible) to:  
MERRILL LYNCH EUROPE LTD  
Recruitment & Training Dept  
27 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1AQ  
(No agencies)

Merrill Lynch

## Receptionist

Lloyds Insurance Broker  
City Based

We are currently seeking a Receptionist for our Executive Suite.

If you have a mature approach to work, are used to working at a senior level, possess good typing skills, an excellent telephone manner and good organisational skills - this could be the job for you.

In return we offer an excellent salary and fringe benefits.

For further details please ring Mary Palmer on 01-623 4631 ext. 3331 or apply in writing, giving career details to date, to Mary Palmer, Personnel Officer, Leslie & Godwin Ltd, Dunster House, Mark Lane, London, EC3P 3AD.

## SECRETARY - PA KENSINGTON

Large firm based in W.S. require either male or female P.A. Secretary for the Marketing Manager. A very fast, hard-working environment demands that the person be highly professional and have a natural flair for organisation. A European Language is an obvious advantage but not essential. Good dress sense. Excellent telephone manner and the ability to follow throughout the whole company and yet maintain confidentiality is essential. Limited shorthand and basic knowledge of telex preferable - typing 80 wpm.

To arrange an interview, please contact Lesley Moffatt, Personnel Dept., London Tara Hotel, Scarsdale Place (off Wrights Lane), Kensington, London W.8. Tel: 01-937 7211.

## Circa £9,000 + perks for 1984?

PA secretary to Director of large international Co represented in 30 countries. Someone hard working & interested in company admin, policy & benefits. A true PA job. Must have international experience.

Age 30 - 40 ish.

Phone Mrs Byzantini

Norma Skemp  
(Personal Services Ltd)

01-222 5091

## PUT SOME LIFE INTO YOUR CAREER FOR 1984

If you are looking for a rewarding job working as part of a small team, running a busy sales office, this could be your career opportunity for 1984.

To join our branch near the City you should be aged 23+ and have an aptitude for figurework with typing at 50 wpm.

You will also need to be flexible and used to working under pressure. We can offer you a salary of £8,000 + all the usual large company benefits.

For further details, please telephone Theresa Green on 01-499 0631. Hambro Life Assurance PLC, Britain's largest unit-linked insurance company.

## SECRETARY P.A.

FOR THE FINANCE DIRECTOR

MAJOR PUBLIC COMPANY, SW1

INTERESTING, DEMANDING, REWARDING, APPOINTMENT, SHORTHAND AND APPTITUDE FOR FIGURE WORK ESSENTIAL

FOR DETAILS TELEPHONE

MRS HANSCOMB 01-828 5051

## SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR

A large firm of Consulting Engineers which employs approximately 2,000 people worldwide, we seek an experienced senior secretary for one of our directors, based in our central office in London W1.

The person we seek will be well-educated and will possess excellent secretarial and organisational skills. As important, will be a lively intelligence, a good memory, a sense of humour and the ability to get on well with people at all levels. Much of the work involves legal and insurance matters, so applicants with relevant experience will be preferred.

If you are interested, please write giving full details of qualifications and experience to:  
Mervyn Preston, Deputy Staff Manager,  
ONE ARUP PARTNERSHIP  
13 Fitzroy Street, London, W1P 6BQ.







## Today's television and radio

Edited by Peter Dear

## BBC 1

6.00 Breakfast News headlines.  
6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Salma Scott. News with Peter Birtles at 6.50, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hour; sports news at 8.40 and 9.00 regional news, weather and traffic at 8.45, 9.15, 9.45 and 10.15 the day's television preview at 8.55; a review of the morning papers at 7.15 and 8.15; Esther Rantzen's 'That's Life' file between 7.30 and 7.45 with a follow-up phone-in between 7.45 and 8.00; and horoscopes at 8.35.

9.00 The New Adventures of Flash Gordon. 8.25 Why Don't You...? Ideas for bored youngsters from Scottish children. 9.50 Weekly Races (r). 10.00 Play Appeal Advice for beginners from Bill Hartman. 10.10 Jackanory. Bernard Cribbins reads part three of the Mystery of Mr Jones's Disappearing Taz (r). 10.25 Paddlington visits (r). 10.30 Play School. Bank (r). 10.35 Gharbar. A magazine programme of interest to Asian women. Today's programme is devoted to music with singers and musicians from the sub-continent. 11.20 Mary Chippierfield's Trunk Call to Sri Lanka. Miss Chippierfield solves the elephants on the island. 12.00 Look Back with John Noakes along the South Downs.

12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coward. 12.57 Regional news (London and SE). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Includes singer Bette Midler and the cooking canon from Carolee. The Rev John Eley 1.45 Book (r).

2.00 Film: Merry Andrew (1958) starring Danny Kaye as a teacher who joins a travelling troupe. Directed by Michael Kidd. 3.40 Caravan. Hunting Mice. 3.48 Regional news (London) 3.50 Ivor the Engine (r).

3.55 Play School presented by Stuart McGugan. 4.20 Heathcote. Adventures of a marionette cat. 4.25 Jackanory (r). 5.08 John Craven's Newsround. 5.10 Think of a Number. Johnny Bell begins a new series of light-hearted explorations of science and numbers.

5.40 Sixty Minutes includes regional news from Mike Stuart at 5.40. 6.40 1983 Team Disco Dance Championships. The finals introduced by Peter Powell from the Powerhouse, Birmingham. The guests are singing group, Bucks Fizz.

7.10 So You Think... You're Switched On? A quiz about television presented by Cliff Michelmore. The panel consists of Esther Rantzen, Tony, Barry Cryer and Lenny Henry.

8.05 Cockles. The first of a new comedy series about the faded seaside resort of Cockles. Starring James Groux, Joan Sims and Norman Rodway.

1.00 News with Sue Lawley. 1.25 Whicker's World. This first of a new series finds the indefatigable traveller on a fast boat to China (see Choice).

0.20 Sportnight introduced by Harry Carpenter. Tennis and cards are featured tonight with action from the Barrat World Doubles Championship at the Albert Hall and The Embassy World Professional Darts Championship at Stoke-on-Trent.

1.10 The Rockford Files. The off-beat detective is hired to acquire a cormorant (r). 2.00 News and weather.

## TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Nick Owen and John Stapleton. News with Gavin Scott at 6.50, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; sport at 8.35; Winsey's pots at 8.40; exercises at 8.50; and 8.55; Jerry Bracker's anniversaries at 9.00; 9.15; 9.30; 9.45; 9.55; 10.00; 10.15; 10.30; 10.45; 10.55; 11.00; 11.15; 11.30; 11.45; 12.00; 12.15; 12.30; 12.45; 12.55; 1.00; 1.15; 1.30; 1.45; 1.55; 2.00; 2.15; 2.30; 2.45; 2.55; 3.00; 3.15; 3.30; 3.45; 3.55; 4.00; 4.15; 4.30; 4.45; 4.55; 5.00; 5.15; 5.30; 5.45; 5.55; 6.00; 6.15; 6.30; 6.45; 6.55; 7.00; 7.15; 7.30; 7.45; 7.55; 8.00; 8.15; 8.30; 8.45; 8.55; 9.00; 9.15; 9.30; 9.45; 9.55; 10.00; 10.15; 10.30; 10.45; 10.55; 11.00; 11.15; 11.30; 11.45; 12.00; 12.15; 12.30; 12.45; 12.55; 1.00; 1.15; 1.30; 1.45; 1.55; 2.00; 2.15; 2.30; 2.45; 2.55; 3.00; 3.15; 3.30; 3.45; 3.55; 4.00; 4.15; 4.30; 4.45; 4.55; 5.00; 5.15; 5.30; 5.45; 5.55; 6.00; 6.15; 6.30; 6.45; 6.55; 7.00; 7.15; 7.30; 7.45; 7.55; 8.00; 8.15; 8.30; 8.45; 8.55; 9.00; 9.15; 9.30; 9.45; 9.55; 10.00; 10.15; 10.30; 10.45; 10.55; 11.00; 11.15; 11.30; 11.45; 12.00; 12.15; 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## Sellafield cancer victims get compensation

Compensation has been paid to six workers at Sellafield (formerly Windscale) nuclear plant who have contracted cancer, although the plant in Cumbria has not admitted responsibility.

Mr William Waldegrave, under secretary at the Department of the Environment who disclosed the payments yesterday in a letter to a Labour MP, said British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL) recognized the "possibility of a cancer being linked to radiation".

But Mr Brian Sedgemore, MP for Hackney South and Shore-ditch, said that amounted to a government admission that "on the balance of probability the plant is not safe".

He expressed disbelief at government claims that no one had died from radiation. "The body count is zero, it seems, simply because liability is never admitted", he said.

Mr Waldegrave said nine claims two leukaemias and seven other cancers - had been made since BNFL took over management responsibilities in 1971. "In no case has liability been admitted", he said. "Compensation has been paid in out-of-court settlements in respect of six of the nine cases".

"According to studies by BNFL, there is not a detectably

greater incidence of cancers in workers at Sellafield than in the general population.

However, as good employers, BNFL consider that they cannot ignore the possibility of small numbers of cases where an individual's employment with the company may have been a factor in his contracting a cancer.

BNFL had enabled some claimants to receive compensation even though they might not have been able to prove their case in court.

But Mr Sedgemore said: "The Government's admissions constitute alarming news at a time when the Director of Public Prosecutions is considering prosecuting BNFL for breaches of safety regulations."

"So far we have been assured publicly that no one has died from radiation poisoning as a result of the development of civil nuclear power in Britain. In the light of the latest admissions this claim does not seem credible."

He also said the Government paid the compensation without going to court because it wanted to avoid a "public examination of how radiation leaks at Sellafield may have caused cancer and leukaemia in their workers".

## Syria frees US airman

Continued from page 1

out of Lebanon within hours if Mr Reagan was forced to change the course of American strategy.

HMS Fearless, an assault ship, is offshore and extra helicopters have been based on Cyprus for the past two months, with enough capacity to ensure that any withdrawal of the 100 British servicemen could be effected cleanly and quickly.

But Whitehall sources were at pains to emphasize that although reviews of the situation were regular, there were no plans for a withdrawal and there was no knowledge of any American plans - for the moment.

The Prime Minister is undoubtedly concerned to give Mr Reagan maximum moral support at a time of domestic political difficulty.

Some sources stated that the British contribution to the multi-national force was not exclusively based on an American request for support. It was pointed out that the Lebanese

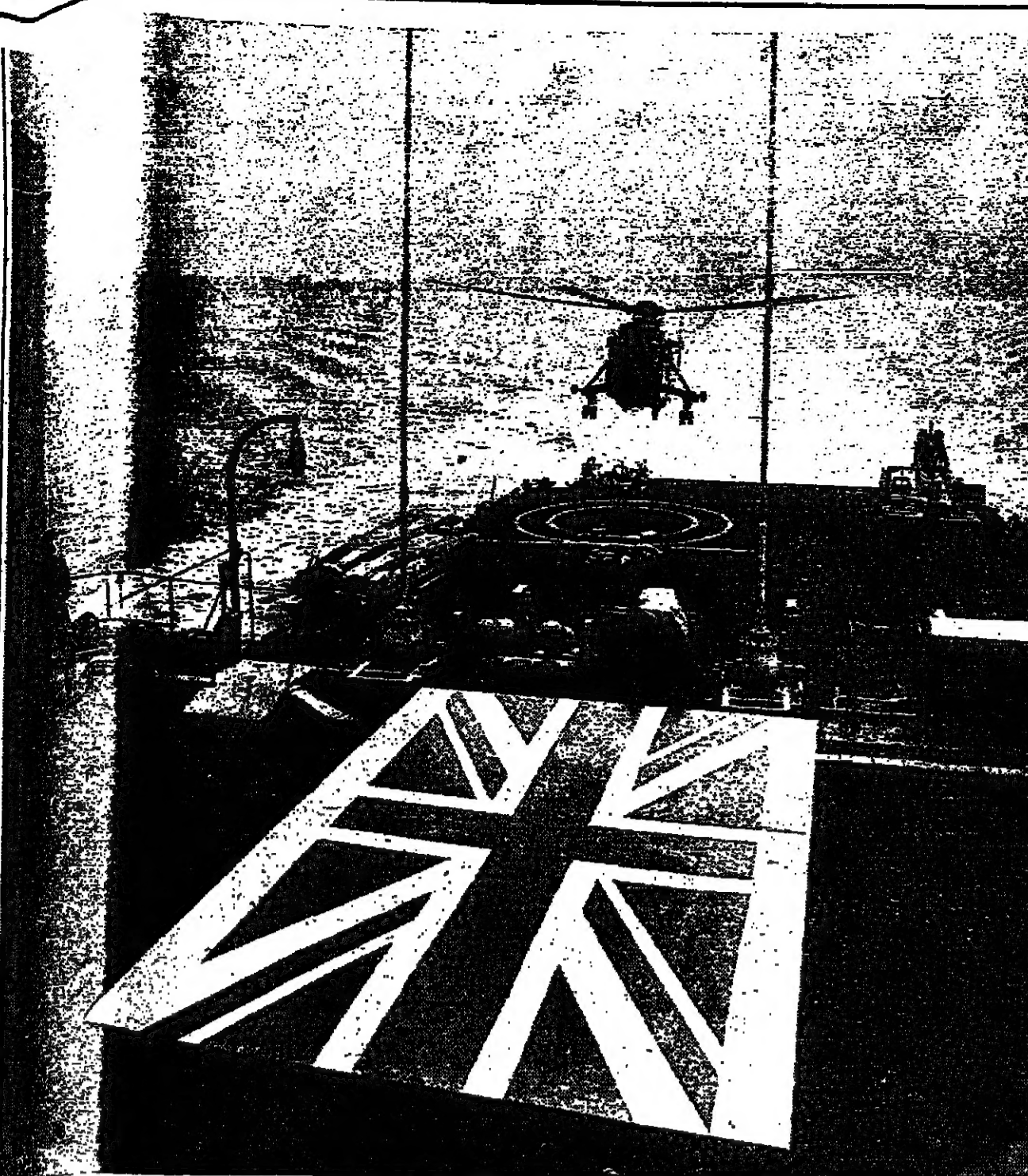
appreciated the British contribution and that the Cabinet accepted the British role provided there was no unacceptable risk to the safety of the British contingent.

Meanwhile, Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, played up the mounting pressure on Mr Reagan as a means of outflanking Mrs Thatcher.

He said at Heathrow before leaving on an official visit to Greece that British troops should be withdrawn because they were targets.

In an ITN interview he said: "The view of the Pentagon and the former CIA chiefs and the American presidential candidate, Mr Walter Mondale, as well as the French and the Italians, seems to be that no positive subscription is being made to keeping the peace; that is why we believe the British troops should be brought home."

Mr Neil Kinnock, page 2  
Jackson triumph, page 4  
Assad interview, page 6



A Sea King taking off from HMS Fearless to fly to Beirut (Photograph: Terry Fiacher)

## Back-up force for the boys in Beirut

The smart British Ferret armoured cars are a familiar, even popular, sight in east and west Beirut, where they encounter friendly greetings from Christians and Muslims.

When a British contingent of about 100 officers and men joined the multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon last February, they were regarded by many as a token military presence.

They were dwarfed by the American, French and Italian contingents, which ranged from 1,000 to 2,100 soldiers. In the force 5,000 lived down that tag. It was never regarded as being an aggressive threat by Beirut's warring factions and the calm daily patrols throughout the city had a reassuring effect.

The American and French came under fierce attack and retaliation. The Ferrets have never been under serious attack, and the stray bullets and occasional rocket grenades that have hit the British headquarters in the battleground suburb of Hadath were mostly accidental.

The British have not fired one bullet. The 74 officers and men of the 16/5th Lancers who man the armoured cars and the 41 headquarters staff are part of a formidable back-up force.

For every man in Beirut, there are dozens more ready to give immediate support.

Royal Navy warships, led by the assault ship Fearless, patrol the Mediterranean - yet keep out of sight of the Lebanese coast,

and Sea King helicopters are ready to evacuate the troops.

Just over 100 miles away on Cyprus, six Buccaneer strike jets are on stand-by at the RAF base at Akrotiri and can be over Beirut within 14 minutes.

A flight of Phantom fighter-bombers make continuous training flights to Cyprus, and can back up the Buccaneers from 12 Squadron and 208 Squadron who flew from their base at Lossiemouth, Scotland, to provide support.

Chinook helicopters of 7 Squadron and 18 Squadron arrived from Britain and Germany to ferry supplies to Beirut. Wessex helicopters from 34 Squadron, based in Cyprus, are there for rescues or searches.

## Letter from Jerusalem

### Agony as the small men call it quits

There is only one reason why I am going home. The rate on bank overdrafts went up this week to 525 per cent. Inflation will soon be over 200 per cent and no one is making the fat cats pay. It is us, the small men who have fought hard for our country, who are suddenly expected to tighten our belts.

The angry speaker was Maurice, a sabra, or native-born Israeli, aged 28, a supporter of the ruling right-wing Likud coalition, who is one of thousands of Jews (one official prediction at the weekend was between 50,000 and 100,000) planning to leave Israel this year, probably never to return.

Like most Israelis, Maurice is acutely aware of the stigma attached to emigration - always referred to by the pejorative Hebrew word *yerida*, meaning "going down" - which is why he, and all the others I spoke to on the emotive subject, refused to be identified.

Last September, Israel's top chief rabbi ruled that to emigrate from the state, which is built on the concept of immigration (known as *Aliya*, or "coming up") was tantamount to idolatry and was only permitted in "in extreme economic difficulties, such as famine".

Maurice, who is unmarried and one of a sandwich-bar in Jerusalem, is in many ways typical of those who find that the strain imposed by Israel's ailing economy and the measures being taken to rescue it, are too onerous. His intention to go to South Africa or the US is a warning to the Government that many members of its main constituency, the Sephardic Jews, who put it in power, are contemplating the ultimate social protest.

"A number of my friends are planning to get out by the summer, whatever the shame", said Maurice, whose left hand is officially described as "40 per cent disabled", the result of a grenade blast in Lebanon. He denied he was leaving for ideological reasons: "I want only one thing, the freedom to earn a decent living for hard work".

Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the former Labour Prime Minister, referred to *yerida* as "the dropping-off of the weaklings", but recent findings have shown it is impossible to classify those leaving, under one or even two headings.

Established in 1982, after emigration the year before reached 25,900, a level not seen since the despair which gripped Israel after the 1973 war, the department has failed to persuade the Cabinet to adopt its main recommendations: substantial benefits for demobilised soldiers and more rental housing.

1981 was the first year in which Israelis leaving exceeded the number of immigrants. The balance improved subsequently, with the Jewish Agency claiming recently that figures for last year were expected to show 17,000 new arrivals, 3,000 up on 1982.

"There is no doubt, from recent inquiries that the trend to leave is on the up, though at this stage we cannot put a figure on it", Mr Friedberg said. "The chief factor is economic, with the added pull-push effect that, just as things are looking black here, they are looking better in the US."

Although the Government is reluctant to admit it, there is also an ideology factor, with many Israelis disturbed at what they see as the changing face of a country become less Europeanized and more subject to religious laws.

Emigration statistics are notoriously unreliable and subject to endless political controversy - a furor caused by a 1981 report that 500,000 Israelis were living in the US still continues.

Outside the bustling consular section of the American Embassy in Tel Aviv yesterday, most of those clutching their newly-acquired visas brushed off the suggestion that they might be going for anything more than an extended holiday.

But one Tel Aviv resident, who arrived in Palestine before the foundation of the Jewish state and is now advising his flat, told *The Times*:

"You can be certain that once our flat is sold, my wife and I are getting out as fast as we can. I do not have to go through that mess again at my age. In Lebanon and with the economy, Mr Begin (the former prime minister) brought the country to its knees - I am not surprised he resigned; he must have done it from shame."

Christopher Walker

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

#### New exhibitions

David Garland, paintings; Karin Hessenberg, pots; Michael Cech, mirrors; Kathryn Ross, cars and telescopes. Oxford Gallery, 23 High Street, Oxford. Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends Feb 1).

Movement - End of three exhibitions about painting sponsored by the Arts Council, the Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle upon Tyne. Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 4.30, Sun 2.30 to 5.30 (ends Jan 29). Light, first of three exhibitions about painting sponsored by the

Arts Council, Castle Museum, Norwich. Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Jan 29).  
Museum closed for essential work. Museum of Costume, Bennett Street, Bath.

#### Last chance to see

Sainsbury's Images for Today: winners of competition for British artists. Cartwright Hall, Lister Park, Bradford. Tues to Sun 10 to 5 (ends Sun).

Paintings by Peter Sutton; City Museum and Art Gallery, Preston. Tues to Sat 12 to 5 (ends Sat).

Real Painters: "Scottish Country", Gallery 9, Aberdeen Art Gallery, School Hill, Aberdeen. Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8 (ends Sat).

#### Exhibitions in progress

Rail Images through the lens. Featuring more than 100 years of photography. Royal Photographic Society, the Octagon, Milton Street, Bath. Mon to Sat 10 to 4.45 (ends Sun).

Home Sweet Home - an exhibition of Victorian Home Life. City Museum and Art Gallery, Preston. Mon to Sun 10.30 to 5.30 (ends Jan 26).

### New books - biography

The Literary Editor's selection of autobiography and biography published during the year.

A Variety of Lives, a biography of Sir Hugh Greene, by Michael Tracey (The Bodley Head, £15).  
A Portrait of Charles Lamb, by David Cecil (Constable, £9.95).  
Ernest Bevin, Foreign Secretary 1945-1951, by Alan Bullock (Heinemann, £20).  
Great Cobbett, the Noblest Agitator, by Daniel Green (Hodder & Stoughton, £12.95).  
Hensley Henson, by Owen Chadwick (Oxford, £18.50).  
John Maynard Keynes, volume 1, Hopes Betrayed 1883-1920, by Robert Skidelsky (Macmillan, £14.95).  
King George V, by Kenneth Rose (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.95).  
Still Life, by Richard Cobb (Chatto & Windus, £8.50).  
The Diary of Samuel Pepys, Companion and Index volumes, edited by R. C. Latham (Penguin, £14.95).  
Thomas Mann Diaries, 1918-1929, selected and foreword by Hermann Kensten (Andre Deutsch, £19.95).  
Vita, the life of V. Sackville-West, by Victoria Glandinning (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.95).

### Anniversaries

Births: James Ussher, Archbishop of Armagh, 1625-40, Dublin.  
1581: Giovanni Pergolesi, composer. Jesi, Italy.  
1710: Louis Braille, composer. France.  
1809: Sir Isaac Newton, 1813: Augustus J. John, Tenby, Dyfed.  
1878: Deaths: Stephen Hales, botanist, Teddington, Middlesex.  
1761: Henri Bergson, philosopher, Paris.  
1941: Donald Campbell, one-time holder of speed records on land (403.1 mph in July 1964) and water (202.33 mph in July 1955, raised to 276.33 mph in December 1964); killed on Coniston Water, 1967.

### Canal Marathon

The British Waterways Board has organized the first-ever Trans-Pennine Canal Marathon for canoes, covering a strenuous 127-mile route on the Leeds and Liverpool Canal from May 26-31. Any reasonably competent canoeist is welcome to enter, although the BWB warns that the route involves 30 portages around locks, passage through two tunnels, and ascent to and descent from a summit pound of 487ft above sea-level. Details and application forms from Gwen White, Liverpool Watersports Centre, Inner Temple, Temple Lane, Liverpool L3 5RS (tel. 051-227 3208); or Keith Wheat, BWB, 1 Dock Street, P.O. Box 9, Leeds LS1 1HH (tel. 0532-436741).

### Roads

London and South-east A13: Single lane traffic between Stanford Hill and junction with A128, at Orsett, Essex: congestion at peak periods.  
Midlands A34: Contraflow on Stone-Nottingham road at Stoughton, Staffordshire. A456: Roadworks between Hagley and Halesowen, leading to lane restrictions and closures. A429: Roadworks between Wellbourne and Stow at Halford, Warwickshire.  
Wales and West M4: Lane closures at junction 32 (Cardiff) and junction 34 (Llantrisant); delays. A38: Eastbound carriageway closed at Lee Mill, on Ivybridge to Plymouth road. A38: Traffic restrictions in West Street, Bedfordminster, Bristol.  
North: A66: Single-lane traffic, temporary signals on bridge at Eden Lodge, Kirby Thore, Cumbria.  
A66: Traffic lights, reconstruction at Kellingly. A61: Resurfacing work along Barmby Road near Wakefield, West Yorks.  
Scotland: A92: Single lane traffic, lights north of Barry. A72: Single lane traffic with lights west of A703 junction at Peebles. A90: Lane closures on outside lane of southbound carriageway, between Forth road-bridge and junction 1 of the M90.

### The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia S	1.68	1.58
Austria S	28.95	27.35
Belgium Fr	84.25	89.25
Canada S	6.25	1.78
Denmark Kr	14.83	14.13
Finland Mkk	8.74	8.34
France Fr	12.48	11.90
Germany DM	34.80	330.00
Italy Lira	1.31	1.26
Japan Yen	247.50	235.00
Netherlands Gld	4.60	4.37
Norway Kr	11.60	11.00
Portugal Esc	199.00	198.00
Spain Ptas	164.00	164.00
Spain Ptas	234.00	224.00
Sweden Kr	12.06	11.46
Switzerland Fr	3.28	3.11
USA \$	1.45	1.43
Yugoslavia Dnr	224.00	210.00

Rates for small denominations bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.  
Retail Price Index: 341.9  
London: The FT Index closed 3.9 down at 771.8

## Weather

A ridge of high pressure will move across British Isles, followed in N by a trough of low pressure.

### 6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S, central N England, E Midlands: Mainly dry, sunny periods; wind NW moderate backing W later, max 33C (91F).  
Wales and NW England, S Wales, NW, NE England, Lake District: Sunny periods; rain or drizzle, rain or drizzle later, max 15C (59F).  
W Midlands, NW, NE England, Lake District: Sunny periods; rain or drizzle, rain or drizzle later, max 15C (59F).  
Wales and NW England, S Wales, NW, NE England, Lake District: Sunny periods; rain or drizzle, rain or drizzle later, max 15C (59F).

Central Highlands, Argyl, NW Scotland, Northern Ireland: Sunny intervals; isolated wintry showers, rain or drizzle later, max 15C (59F).  
Wales and NW England, S Wales, NW, NE England, Lake District: Sunny periods; rain or drizzle, rain or drizzle later, max 15C (59F).  
Wales and NW England, S Wales, NW, NE England, Lake District: Sunny periods; rain or drizzle, rain or drizzle later, max 15C (59F).

SEA PASSAGES: North Sea: Wind NW strong to severe gale force, sea very rough. Strait of Dover, English Channel: Wind NW strong to gale force, sea rough or very rough. Irish Sea, St George's Channel: Wind NW backing SW strong to gale force, sea rough or very rough. English Channel: Wind NW strong to gale force, sea rough or very rough.

Sun rises: 6.06 am  
Sun sets: 4.06 pm  
Moon rises: 9.23 am  
Moon sets: 5.06 pm  
First Quarter: January 11.

### Lighting-up time

London 4.35 pm to 7.35 am  
Bristol 4.45 pm to 7.45 am  
Edinburgh 4.55 pm to 7.55 am  
Manchester 4.35 pm to 7.35 am  
Preston 4.35 pm to 7.35 am

### London

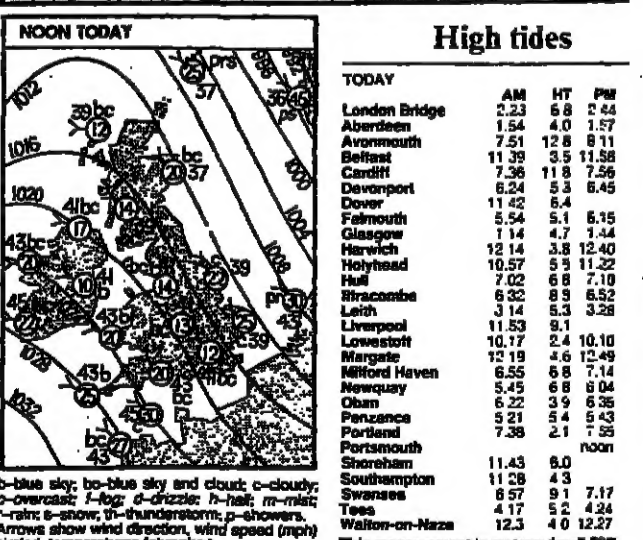
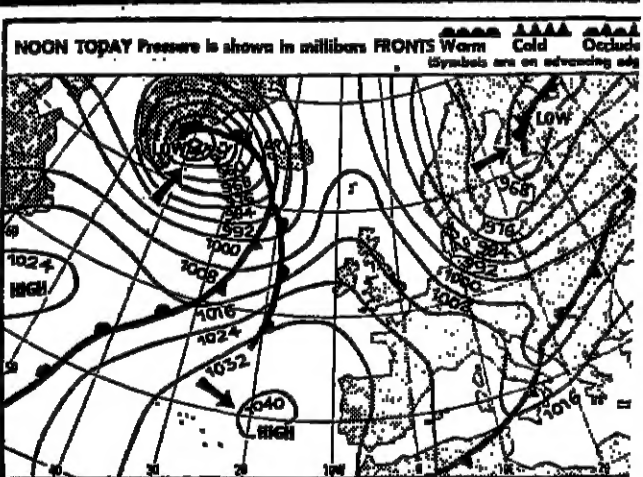
Yesterday: Temp: max 8 am to 8 pm, 7C (45F); min 5 pm to 8 am, 4C (39F). Humidity: 8 pm, 87 per cent. Rain: 2.1 in. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 999 mbars, rising.

### Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, cloud, f, rain, s, sun, snow, drizzle.  
Belfast: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Birmingham: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Blackpool: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Bristol: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Cardiff: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Carnegie: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Dundee: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Edinburgh: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Exeter: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Glasgow: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Hull: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Leeds: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Liverpool: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Manchester: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Newcastle: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Nottingham: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Preston: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Reading: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Sheffield: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Southampton: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Stirling: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Tottenham: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Truro: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Wolverhampton: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.  
Wrexham: 12/37 C, 54/99 F, 1/3 C, 33/91 F.

### Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Worcester, 11C (52F); lowest day temp: Aberdeen, 1C (34F).  
Lowest night temp: Aberdeen, 1C (34F); highest night temp: Worcester, 11C (52F).



Around Britain			
Area	Sun	Rain	Max
Scarborough	1.3	28	74
Blackpool	1.3	28	74
Birmingham	1.3	28	74
Belfast	1.3	28	74
Bristol	1.3	28	74
Cardiff	1.3	28	74
Carnegie	1.3	28	74
Dundee	1.3	28	74
Edinburgh	1.3	28	74
Exeter	1.3	28	74
Glasgow	1.3	28	74
Hull	1.3	28	74
Leeds	1.3	28	74
Liverpool	1.3	28	74
Manchester	1.3	28	74
Newcastle	1.3	28	74
Nottingham	1.3	28	74
Preston	1.3	28	74
Reading	1.3	28	74
Sheffield	1.3	28	74
Southampton	1.3	28	74
Stirling	1.3	28	74
Tottenham	1.3	28	74
Truro	1.3	28	74
Wolverhampton	1.3	28	74
Wrexham	1.3	28	74

Abroad			
Area	Sun	Rain	Max
Algeria	1.3	28	74
Australia	1.3	28	74
Bahamas	1.3	28	74
Bangladesh	1.3	28	74
Belgium	1.3	28	74
Bhutan	1.3	28	74
Bolivia	1.3	28	74
Brazil	1.3	28	74
Bulgaria	1.3	28	74
Canada	1.3	28	74
Chad	1.3	28	74
China	1.3	28	74
Columbia	1.3	28	74
Czechoslovakia	1.3	28	74
Denmark	1.3	28	74
Egypt	1.3	28	74
France	1.3	28	74
Germany	1.3	28	74
Ghana	1.3	28	74
Greece	1.3	28	74
Haiti	1.3	28	74
Hong Kong	1.3	28	74
Hungary	1.3	28	74
India	1.3	28	74
Indonesia	1.3	28	74
Iran	1.3	28	74
Ireland	1.3	28	74
Israel	1.3	28	74
Italy	1.3	28	74
Japan	1.3	28	74
Jordan	1.3	28	74
Korea	1.3	28	74
Laos	1.3	28	74
Lebanon	1.3	28	74
Libya	1.3	28	74
Luxembourg	1.3	28	74
Madagascar	1.3	28	74
Malaysia	1.3	28	74
Mali	1.3	28	74
Mexico	1.3	28	74
Morocco	1.3	28	7